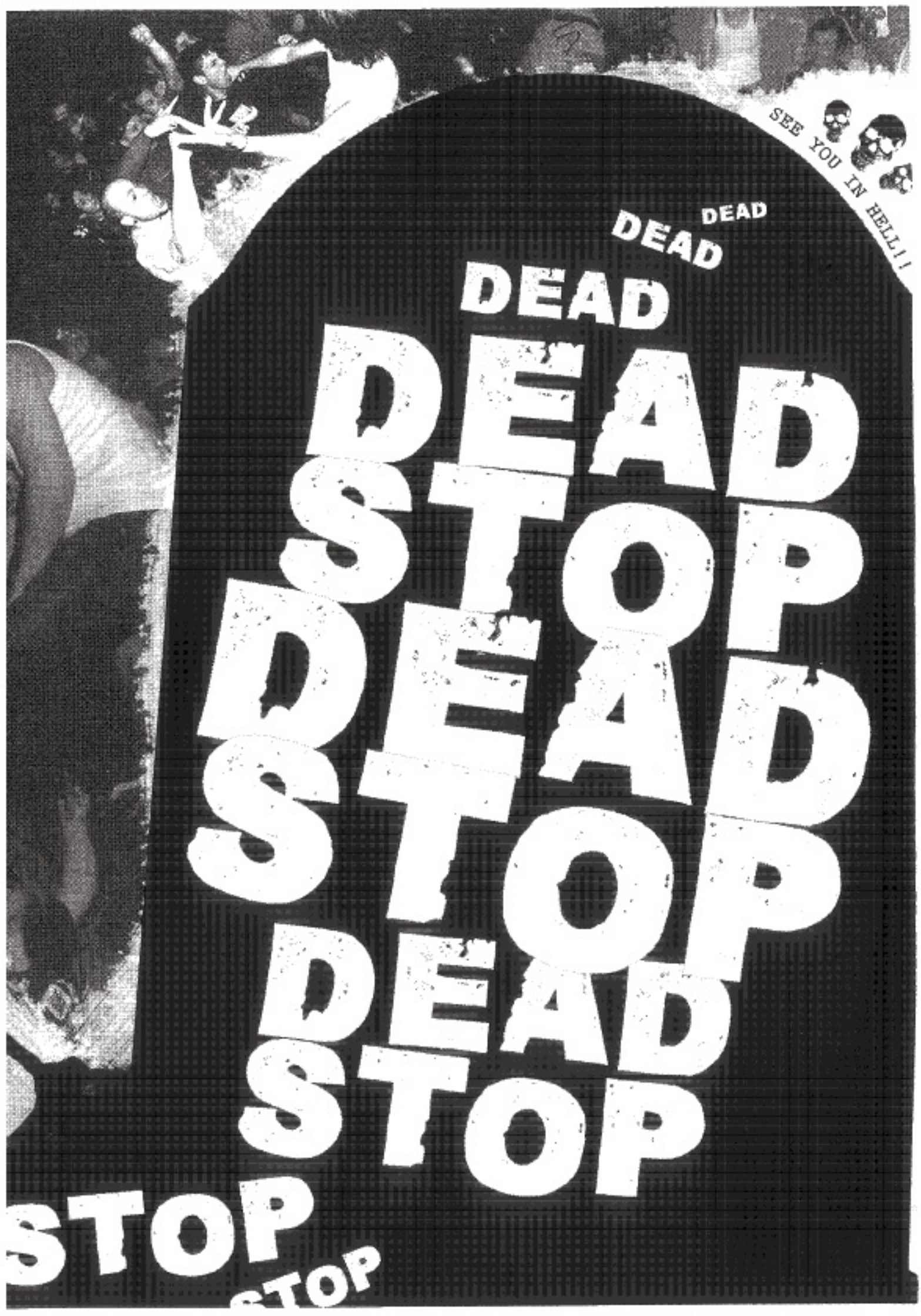

SEE YOU IN HELL!!
DEAD
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STOP

Compiled by:

Dossche Larry

Cover by:

J. Restless

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Dead Stop Hooligans and hardcore maniacs worldwide!

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Laura De Vos Marc Linkenheil

Raf Balrak Ruud Oude Wolbers

Spoiler Stijn Reproach

& kids who forgot to put their names on their pictures!

Just when you think you got it all figured out

You got a deadstop

At 9 o'clock in the morning of May 7th, 2006 five of us meet up in Ghent and get into the car for what will be the last time of following Dead Stop on a trip abroad. When an hour later we try to meet up with the rest of the cars, we end up at the wrong place, at the wrong time but we don't give a shit. It's always been like that and at the last of many roadtrips we still haven't learnt a thing...

I've never really made a secret of how much I love Dead Stop. As far as I'm concerned there's only one band and it's them. That this band is playing their final show on May 20th 2006 is hard to believe. When people found out about the end of Dead Stop and their final show, they got in touch with each other and wanted to express what it all meant to them. Spontaneously they wrote down their thoughts, their stories and their anecdotes on Dead Stop and sent them to us. Dead Stop didn't leave anyone untouched. The outburst of emotions on May 20th will be of unseen proportions. From total craziness and exuberance because it's the last time we'll ever see Dead Stop, to sadness and grief because we all know what we're gonna miss. While thinking about May 20th and reading through these pages upon pages of stories and anecdotes, we decided that it was a good idea to collect all these writings in a fanzine so that the best hardcore band of our times will never be forgotten.

From day one it was obvious that Dead Stop wasn't going to be another footnote in hardcore's history. They were gonna be the best band this country had ever seen. A bunch of enthusiast followed in their trail. Dudes like Theflex, Erik Tilburg, Bjorn Dossche, Steven Tuffin, Peter Vanderlintfabriek, Vincent Vega, Phil Vinyl and Stijn Reproach, amongst others were going off no matter where or when they played.



"Live For Nothing" releaseshow. Lintfabriek.

in your life

Knocking people out and running into walls. At the very same point in time where we might have all given up on hardcore, Dead Stop was there and they were playing HARDCORE right in front of us. If all these characters were losing their mind every time Dead Stop played, you just know this band must have had something going for them. We all had the mutual feeling that if there ever was something exciting that was going to happen in hardcore again, it had to be right here, right now. Everybody that was at their first 4 or 5 shows will agree with me when I say that these were some of the best in Dead Stop's history. Just because of the overall feeling of excitement and energy that was present because, from then on, we had something to look forward to. It was around that time that Theflex and me got so excited about everything that was happening right in front of us that we took all our money, booked the cheapest flights in the direction of the United States and took a box full of Dead Stop demos with us. We simply had to tell the world what was going on in Belgium (and my mom wouldn't mind or listen!).



Frontline, Ghent, 2004.

This band would pick up a dead scene and turn it into perfection. This band would take over the world and tour Europe & the US multiple times. This band would bring purpose to the lives of hundreds of kids and suck them into hardcore. This band would re-establish Tuffin's faith in hardcore. This band would make people see the brilliance of Antidote's "Thou Shalt Not Kill" 7". It was all just a matter of time. We only had 7 songs worth of proof but we knew it would happen. If they couldn't do it, no one could.

I'd like to dedicate this fanzine to all the cool people I met during the past four years, to all the dudes who shared my love for Dead Stop from the beginning (Theflex, Tuffin, Erik, Dossche, Spoiler) and most importantly to the four dudes in Dead Stop: Lino, Jacobs, Coorde and Michiel. From May 19th 2002 until May 20th 2006 they were the greatest band in the world.

Thanks a lot!

Now I have to cry.

Larry
May 17th 2006
Ghent



Ungdomshuset, Copenhagen, 2006.



DEAD STOP

Moers, Germany. 16/04/2005.

So this is it. The final Dead Stop interview. Even though these dudes have been interviewed numerous times already, we still felt like some questions had remained unanswered. Maybe others were scared to dig too deep and possibly insult the band? Or maybe Dead Stop never really went all the way, just to keep us hanging on, while retaining that mysterious vibe around the band? One thing is for sure though, Dead Stop interviews would always be interesting, whether that was because of Jacobs' arrogant, in-your-face answers or Michiel's well thought over diplomatic reasoning. For one last time though, we tried to roam where others were afraid to, we tried to get answers to questions that were never answered (or even asked!) before and we tried to unveil the essence, the heart and soul of the best hardcore band of our times: Dead Stop.

Questions by Larry and Dossche, with a little help from BartthefleX.

Answers by Michiel, Coorde, Jacobs and Lino.

I'm sure the last four years, as a member of Dead Stop, were hectic to say the least. There's a lot of things you've done (and haven't done), there's a lot of places you've gone and a lot of people you've met. What are the achievements you're most proud of?

Michiel: On a personal level I'm definitely most proud of the records we've made. Especially our last effort gives me a great feeling. I think we managed to create a sound that is still somewhat unique today. Ofcourse we haven't done anything new or groundbreaking but these days there isn't any other band that sounds like Dead Stop. As a band, we can also say that our existence helped creating a new wave of hardcore kids. Kids that were stoked to see us play and were following us wherever we played. I feel that we, together with Justice, were responsible for that and ofcourse that's something to be proud of.

When I hear a lot of younger kids talking about their first hardcore shows, a lot of times their first real show was a Dead Stop show. It's great to see what kind of impact your band can have on someone. Dead Stop helped creating a better hardcore scene, when we started out hardcore shows were rather dull and boring. But now that we're playing our last show things have definitely changed and the future holds a lot of promise. Playing all over Europe, touring the States and noticing that people all over the world dig what you're doing gives you thrills as well.

Coorde: Every now and then, you hear a band say how amazing they think it is, and how grateful they are, to hear that people know their songs and sing along, especially when they're far away from home. I'm proud that we were one of those bands. I'm proud of the live reputation we've built up over the years which we owe largely to all those people coming out to see us and having a good time. OK, I think it's safe to say the level of our playing was more or less constantly good, but no matter how we played the show was made by the people watching it.

Then again, four years isn't all that long. It may be very well be possible that you didn't get to do every single thing you wanted to. What are some of those things?

Michiel: Ofcourse we could have done a lot more and I often think about all we could have done if we still would've been in school. Being older and having to work restricts your possibilities. There isn't much I regret though but not touring the West Coast of the US and not being able to tour Japan or Brasil is a pity, especially since we had the opportunities.

I also think, musicwise we could have pushed it a little further, but on the other hand I'm happy with our records anyway. One thing I definitely don't regret is not playing retarded festivals and such. Maybe that's something to be proud of as well. Every show we played, every tour we did, we always did it on our own and in our own way. We didn't need to play some stupid festival or some big show to reach bigger crowds and to become a known band. We really couldn't care less if there were 10.000 people or whatever. Becoming 'big' was never our goal and playing shows because it could help our 'career' was something we never did. And I'm glad we didn't.

A lot of Americans seem to regret the fact that Dead Stop never made it out to the West Coast, since both of the US tours you did were centered around the East Coast and Canada. Was there a specific reason to visit the East Coast twice? It could have been interesting to play California and its more punk orientated scene.

Michiel: Maybe we made the wrong choice, but the second East Coast trip was cool as well. We went to Florida and played amazing shows in Canada, DC, Boston and Richmond. But the Midwest was kind of a letdown. It left us wondering if it wouldn't have been a better idea to head out to the West Coast. We figured however that since we'd already toured the East Coast and the Midwest before we would be able to reap the benefits of our first tour (which was great) and have an even better tour. It was really good but maybe we expected a little bit more. I definitely think that a West Coast tour would have been amazing but it's all about making choices and we had to choose since some of us were short on the amount of days we could take off at work.

In the early Dead Stop days shows were a rarity, still out of the blue you embarked on a first tour to Greece, of all places. How did you end up there? What was the idea behind going to a place touring bands almost never visit? And why didn't you first do a regular (European) tour?

Jacobs: We knew Sophia, who lives in Holland and she proposed it to us. We knew Out Cold were about to tour Europe and she asked us if we wanted to play some shows with them in Greece. At that time, we never thought we would be touring the States and Europe twice, so we immediately went for it. The fact that hardly any bands go there, was an extra motivation. We didn't expect a lot but it turned out to be one of the best moments in Dead Stop's history.

What were some of the most remarkable characters you've encountered throughout the years?

Coorde: First and foremost, Lino... The two of us have had our fair share of run-ins pretty much throughout our entire existence, but in all honesty, the guy's a big mouth and he's funny, so for every problem I've had with him, there's at least one good memory as well. Other people that come to mind are: Filip and Stief from Justice, Dave and Tad from Set To Explode, Matt Summers, Foxy and probably a lot more but my memory's hazy.

Do you feel like a good hardcore band only has a limited lifespan? Do bands that stick around longer lose a lot or some of their focus, drive and energy?

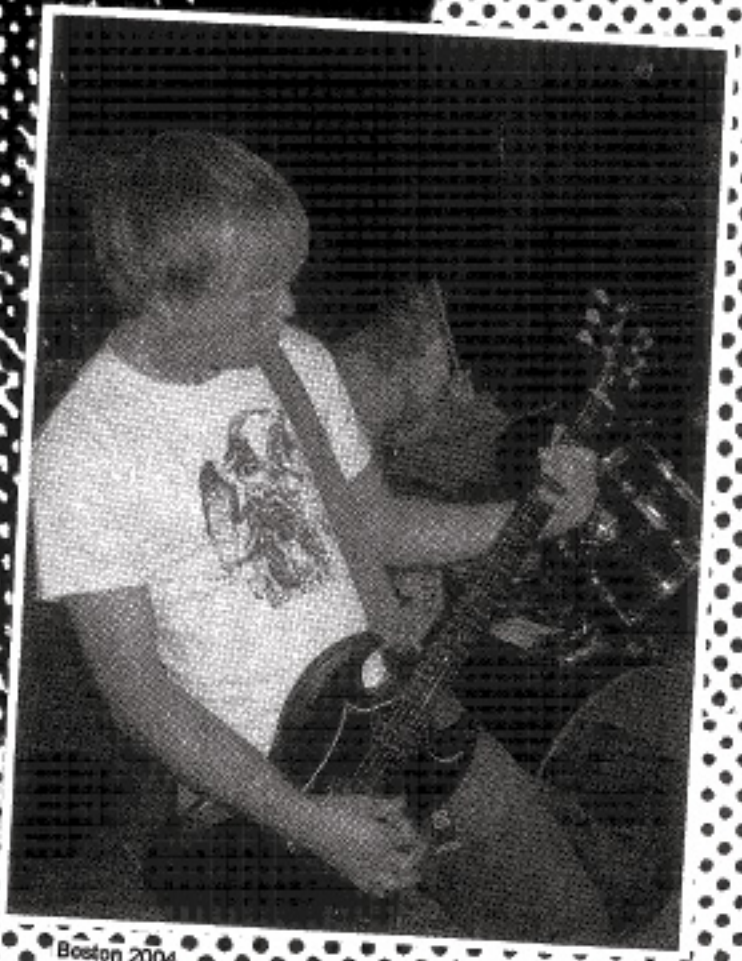
Michiel: It's hard to say but I do think that a good hardcore band has a certain lifespan. Especially musically. As a band you have some kind of formula, an own way to write songs. For example the songs from our demo roughly have the same formula as the "Live For Nothing" songs, I only think the latter were a lot better. As a result of this I feel that as a band you start to repeat yourself after a while. I alreay had that feeling while we were in the process of writing "Live For Nothing". I skipped a lot of songs because I had the feeling I was just repeating myself and not writing better songs.

Ofcourse this is a tough question and it depends on what your goals are as and. When Dead Stop started out our goal was to play hardcore. Even if we added some different influences along the way (without changing our sound), we were still limited ofcourse. It was never our intention to play anything else besides hat we did so we didn't have the need to evolve in a completely new direction. I think the name Dead Stop stood for something musicwise and we wanted to keep it that way. Just like Negative Approach or Minor Threat stood for what they did.

I've said this a lot before but when I want to play something else I'll start a new band, with new challenges. So yeah I believe good hardcore bands should have a limited lifespan. Especially when it comes down to writing records. Playing live is somehow different because you can always capture the energy and intensity of songs in a live set. I think Murphy's Law is a good



Complete Control showcase in Amsterdam.



Boston 2004.

example of this. They're an awesome band, and live they're probably one of the best bands I've ever seen, but their new records never can match up to their early stuff. Most bands' early stuff is also their best stuff because it's so pure and fresh! "The Age Of Quarrel" is better than "Best Wishes", "Just Look Around" is better than "Built To Last" and "Get It Away" is definitely better than "Break It Up"!

With every record Dead Stop managed to push its own limits and grew into a band that was harder and more confident than before. How do you look back on every record you put out and how would you describe the evolution the band made from the demo to "Live For Nothing"?

Michiel: I'm happy with all the releases we've done, we just learned how to write better songs. When we wrote the demo we had one goal, to create a band that sounded like Negative Approach, The Abused or Antidote. With the release of "Done With You" and "Live For Nothing" we managed to create something that could be described as the Dead Stop sound. You can hear where we come from and what our influences are, but we still have our own identity. The evolution is basically the result of us becoming better musicians. When I look back on the demo and EP I think the songs are kinda weak, "Done With You" was a lot better musically. "Live For Nothing" however gave me a completely satisfied feeling, it's definitely my favourite release. Not only musicwise, because I think the recordings reflect that we were at the peak of our existence. By playing the songs live you notice which songs are better and which are somewhat weaker.

At first sight one would say Dead Stop's lyrics are all very hateful and angry. Is this all there is to them or is there more? Is there an evolution to be discovered when you compare your earlier lyrics to your later work?

Lino: Writing lyrics was perhaps even stranger to me than actually singing in a hardcore band. On the 7" I simply wrote about people I hated. People who bother you in the city with stupid questions, hippies, that kind of stuff. Writing negative lyrics is easier than positive ones, I think... I wanted to write lyrics that affected me personally. Not just shallow negative lyrics 'cause then there would be no difference with for instance Hatebreed or other bullshit bands. I wanted to feel on stage what I was singing about so people could understand why I'm angry. Although I don't think people were interested in Dead Stop's lyrics in the first place, but more in the energy and intensity of the band. On "Done With You", I did exactly the same thing but the subjects were somewhat more "interesting". "Done With You", for example, is about people who are addicted to their work and their career. They get old and then wonder why they haven't really lived. It may sound cliché but it's simply something that could have happened to me too. When I wrote the lyrics for "Live For Nothing" I tried to focus on some of the problems in this world today as well. "Walk The Line" is about censorship, there is even a song ("You Have It All") about Bush and his thirst for oil. If there is an evolution to be discovered in my lyrics then I think the last ones are simply better.

Where does all this anger come from?

Lino: I have no idea. It would be easier if I knew what the source of this anger is but I'm already satisfied to know that I can canalize it. Even when I was still a young kid I could get really angry at people with an attitude that rubbed me the wrong way or people that acted like jerks. I'm not saying I'm a saint but still people could try to have a better and more positive attitude these days and that includes you too, Theflex!

What Dead Stop lyric can you identify with the most?

Coorde: "Separate Ways" from the last LP. For me that song is about making choices and sticking to them. Being the stubborn guy that I am, that's something I hold dear. I also think these lyrics are among the best things Lino has written.

Jacobs: "In Hell". To me, it's about how people want you to do this and that and how they want you to be. Be it your boss, the local authorities or even your friends. I want to be who I want to be and not pretend to be someone else. I won't act a certain way just so someone else would feel more comfortable.

Michiel: The lyrics to the song "Dead Stop" because they clarify why we started this band and how we felt and still feel about the hardcore movement. Other than that I think the best lyric is the one from the song "Separate Ways". It's one of the best Dead Stop songs in my opinion and I can really relate to the lyrics well. It's about friendships falling apart, something that seems to happen all around us these days. As you get older you see a lot of friendships fade and that's a sad thing, but sometimes it's OK. Sometimes there's no use in complaining or being sad about



Who's this skinny kid in the SSD shirt?



Lintfabriek style.

things. Just like the end of this band. It's OK, we don't have to feel bad about it.

You used artwork for records and shirts by artists like Rob Middleton, Spoiler, Ries, J. Restless and Gator. What was your motivation to employ these guys? And do you think there any specific characteristics that connects them to each other and to Dead Stop's image?

Jacobs: Spoiler, Ries and J. Restless were in fact logical choices. They're all friends of ours. When Ries told us he'd be more than happy to do the layout for our demo, we gave it a try and it turned out great. So that's why we kept him for the 7". When we were planning the "Done With You" album, Larry got us in contact with Rob Middleton. I already knew the artwork he did for Napalm Death and was really into it. A pen drawing would've fit Dead Stop perfectly, so I emailed him and asked him if he wanted to do it, and he accepted. For "Live For Nothing" we wanted something different though. Something a little more sober. Michiel proposed this to J. Restless since we already knew him and we all liked Restless Youth's artwork. How we got to Gator was different though. We wanted a shirt design for our US tour. His work for Municipal Waste and Annihilation Time really appealed to me so we just contacted him. The connection between the artists is that they all like Dead Stop (except Gator perhaps because we don't really know him). But the rest of them are into Dead Stop and that's partly why we gave them an opportunity to design something for us. All artwork has a connection as well. It all has something to do with death. From Spoiler's mummies to Ries' murder victim, J Restless' graves, Middleton's man in suit and Gator's zombie.

Jacobs: I still love the "Done With You" artwork. After 2 years it still looks great to me. It's different than other drawings of skeletons and perhaps it's a bit static, but that's cool. I know Middleton put a lot of effort and time into this piece and it shows. When I look at packaging however, "Live For Nothing" is more complete. I don't really have a favourite, but I appreciate Middleton's work the most. I have two favourite shirts. One is Spoiler's walking mummy and the other is the US tour version of our "skate shirt" (as we sometimes call it).

In the history of hardcore it would be logical to mark Dead Stop as a band that followed in the footsteps of originators such as Society System Decontrol, Negative Approach, Minor Threat etc. Do you think Dead Stop's legacy will be as big as the bands mentioned?

Michiel: No I definitely don't think we deserve that much credit, we managed to leave our mark on the hardcore scene for a while but it's definitely too early to say something like that. I'm not even sure if our records will stand the test of time. By the way, the hardcore scene these days is too diverse to leave a permanent mark. I don't think the average new school/Trustkill/beatdown kid knows Dead Stop, but then again is that the hardcore scene we played for? I don't think so. A band such as Terror, just to give an example, won't leave a mark on me either. So in a way I think we will leave a lasting impression on some people but never like Minor Threat did. We will probably be missed but that's it, we influenced a lot of younger kids but musicwise there aren't a lot of bands influenced by Dead Stop, where as tons of bands were influenced by Negative Approach.



Live For Nothing.



Coorde – Soul Power.

How important is layout, imagery and packaging to Dead Stop? Are there certain bands influenced the band in this aspect?

Jacobs: I always thought the layout was important since it represents a band's vision on certain things. We always chose pictures carefully to try and capture our live image as well as possible. The packaging (gatefold vinyl and digipack CD) gives the record and CD that little extra touch. So it's worth the money. A lot of people are downloading music nowadays, and that's OK, I don't really have a big problem with that. People who want to support the bands will buy the record anyway and that's why we always wanted everything to look good. We didn't really have any influences on this aspect though, except on the "Done With You" record perhaps. We used F.U.'s "Kill For Christ" LP as a reference to how we saw the pen and ink drawing style.

What piece of artwork do you personally like the most?

Ever since Dead Stop appeared on the scene there's been a rekindled sense of brotherhood in Belgian hardcore: people hanging out everyday, dudes moving in & travelling together, new bands and projects popping up everywhere etc... How do you personally see this and how did this vibrant scene influence Dead Stop?

Coorde: I reckon that the first two years when we were around were around were among the best years I've known in my life. Like you said, everybody was doing stuff... There was so much energy and a million of ideas popped up and got executed. For a lot of people, so also for us, this was a source of energy, a reason of existence. It's easy to say that you play music for yourself, but let's be honest, when you can be part of a scene like this, it's a million times more fun. I'm sure that, if people wouldn't have caught on to what we were doing, this band wouldn't have lasted for four years.

Now that Dead Stop's done, are there any plans for new bands?

Michiel: There are lots of plans, some a little more solid than others, but I will definitely continue to play in bands. I'm doing this band called Repo Men with some friends. It's a total crossover band and we've got 4 songs and an intro right now. I'm planning to record a demo some time soon, but there aren't any plans to play live yet. The thing is I'm not sure what exactly I wanna do. I've got so many plans and so many things I want to do that I first have to think for myself what I want to do the most. If I start another band I want to put my whole heart in it, and not just do some sloppy hobby-band. I'm not even sure if I'll be starting a hardcore band. One thing is sure, the band has got to have a punk attitude and vibe because that's what's missing in the hardcore scene and in music in general! Not enough punk these days.

Coorde: I just started a band with a couple of Dutch kids. We're largely influenced by the late 80's DC scene. Since I might be moving to Holland in the not so distant future, it seemed like a logical thing to do. Miriam from Malkovich is in it. She's playing bass. My old friend Johan Vogels is playing guitar and Dorus who used to play in No Turning Back is on drums. So that leaves me to do vocals. I've never sung in a band before, so it's a big leap in the dark for me, but I'm excited to learn. We're only working on our second song now, so you won't hear from us in a while.

Jacobs: I'm already in Loud And Clear (although it's not a real band, but more of a project) with members of Justice and True Colors. The LP will be available from Powered Records by the time you publish this. I'll definitely do more bands in the future. I want to do a heavy d-beat band and some other stuff as well. We'll see what the future brings.

Lino: Nothing serious yet. If plans do get serious you'll be the first to know ofcourse. A lot of people have asked me to do something but I don't think I'm ready. This band hasn't been deleted from my system yet, and maybe it never will.

In the future, do you see yourself starting up a new band with any of the former Dead Stop members?

Michiel: If I do, it will probably be with Gert. He's an awesome drummer, maybe not the best technical drummer there is, but he knows what's up. He hits hard and there's a certain 'click' between us. We're jamming 'til the jam is through!

With Justice forming their own label & Dead Stop breaking up, Restless Youth is the only band left on Complete Control Records. What does the future hold for the label?

Michiel: We only know for sure that the next release will be the Restless Youth LP, which I guess is also going to be our last release. It was never our intention to start a real label, we just wanted to release our own records and our friends' stuff. We managed to release some quality records and the name Complete Control Records stands for something. We were responsible for a fresh wind in hardcore. I don't think it's necessary to continue to release other bands to keep the label alive. The releases we did will be available in the future anyway.

I'd like to think of Complete Control Records as a period in our lives when the three bands created their own thing and did what they had to do. We were all different bands but we felt connected to each other and shared great times. I guess I'd like to keep it that way. But that's how I think about it, I'm not sure what the rest of the people involved think. However, Complete Control Records is not dead yet because we're still going to release Restless Youth's "Light Up Ahead" LP, which will be a surprise to a lot of people. That band got so good and wrote an amazing record. We will all try to help to push that record the best we can because it's a record the world needs to hear!

As a drummer, would you say the style of drumming you have is hard to perform? I know a lot of people think it's a piece of cake, which I strongly disagree with. What drummers specifically influenced your style of drumming and what were some of the most challenging songs to play?

Jacobs: I wouldn't say it's really hard, but it's pretty intense to keep that drive during the set. I always had problems... When I wanted to hit harder, I went faster and faster all the time, but now I finally manage to hit my drums as hard as I can without pacing too much!

Chris Foley (SSD) was definitely my greatest influence together with Moore (NA). One of the first songs we ever played was "Tied Down". That was pretty hard at the time. But recently I'm having troubles with "Bend And Break". I don't know why though, but that song's freaking intense!!

What's it like when you play live and you're all the way to the back of the stage while the crowd goes nuts and you see the rest of your band feeding off that energy? Does it work like that for drummers too, or is it different?

Jacobs: To be honest... I hardly remember anything after a show. Most of the time I feel I played a good set, but the crowd weren't really into it and vice versa. I give myself 110 %. And I know the



Liverpool. Fall 2004.



Trollhattan, Sweden.

other guys do too and maybe that's what separates us from other bands that try to do the same thing we do. The live energy will never fade away.

Favourite shirt to play in? The homemade sleeveless Fear shirt? Napalm Death shirt? The bad Brains "Quickness" tour shirt?

Jacobs: That's a hard one. I lost my Bad Brains shirt once, and I was so glad that it got back to me. Now I lost my Fear shirt though. The Napalm Death shirts stay with me, so I'll go for that one.

At times it seemed as if every Dead Stop show was wilder than the last one, that week after week things got crazier. When did you think you had reached your peak as a band, that you thought it wouldn't get better? And what do you think was your absolute peak, in hindsight?

Michiel: I never really thought about this before actually and I'm not sure if we actually reached one, definitive peak. I'm also not sure when we played our craziest shows, it's hard to tell. Some of my favourite shows though were probably before we released the "Live For Nothing" LP. Everybody was familiar with our old stuff plus it was also a time when we didn't play that many shows, so people were excited to see us when we played. I think the best "show" was our appearance at the Justice LP release in Lintfabriek. We only played four songs but it was the hardest and most intense set I ever played. It was crazy, people lost their minds and the place was full of energy. It was also around that time, April - May 2005 that we played some of our best shows ever. Like the Thrashfest gig and the Light The Fuse show. So maybe that was our absolute peak. But our last one is coming and I want it to be crazier than any of the other shows, because I wanna keep that memory.



DEAD STOP

**This is where it ends and
where I make a new start
This is how life goes
whether you like it or not
You have chosen yours
and I chose mine
But different ways always
mean different lives
("Separate Ways")**

How do you think you will feel once that last note on May 20th has faded away?

Jacobs: Depressed and sad. Because these have been the most fabulous times I experienced in my life. We went to a lot of places, met a lot of people, had fun over the years... In another way I think I'll feel a little scared. I know we had a certain influence on the Belgian scene and perhaps outside of Belgium as well. We introduced some great bands to some kids and I hope they won't lose interest in this style of music and lifestyle. Fingers crossed.

What are your last words as an official Dead Stop member?!

Michiel: I was never good at last words or shout outs, but without getting too cheesy I'd like to thank a bunch of people for their support and for the great times we had.

First off my band mates, because we had to live with each others characters and from time to time that wasn't easy. That's also a good reason why the time was right to break up, I felt that friendships where suffering, and I'd rather break up as a band than as friends. Besides the band I would definitely like to thank Larry for being there for us everywhere and at anytime, we owe him a lot. We owe Tilburg and Stief a lot for helping us out. In fact we owe a lot of people, especially for their support from day one. They were responsible for creating our own scene within the scene and for making hardcore shows worth visiting again. It's going to be weird to play the last show and play the last song because that's when we will probably realize it could never get any better and that hardcore is the coolest thing EVER! The support you get from the movement, the places you can see and the people you meet... it's amazing.

Making statements isn't my thing either but I just want to say that Dead Stop never cared about colored vinyl, 15 different album covers or any of that crap. We just cared about good hardcore and not about the things that happen in mainstream music. Hardcore shouldn't be about marketing your band and glossy advertisements or about becoming the next big thing. I still believe in cheap entrance at shows, small venues and an independent attitude. Fuck that mainstream bullshit, start your own damn scene. I'd rather drop out of the hardcore scene than see the scene turn into that kind of nonsense. We as a band believed that the hardcore scene should get their inspiration from the early hardcore punk scenes. Just good times, playing music from the heart and all done by the kids for the kids. I often visit 'hardcore' shows where I totally feel out of step with the rest of the crowd and feel no connection at all with the bands involved or people at the show and that bums me out a lot. I guess I'm glad we were part of a different hardcore scene. And I'm grateful to all the people who made it possible for us to play shows all around the world for people who I did feel connected with. The best times of my life, now I'm off surfing!

Lino: If you were into hardcore between 2002 and 2005 and you lived in Belgium or Holland, you were a lucky bastard 'cause nowhere on this planet was hardcore cooler than it was here. So I'd like to thank the Dead Stop Hooligans for their support and especially Larry for always being there. I will never forget you. Sounds emo but it's the truth.

Coorde: The last couple of years were once again proof that you make your own scene. I hope no one forgets about that.

I wanted to be Lino!

Somewhere in 2001 I got a ride to a show with Kris Coorde. After talking about wrestling and the Bad Brains, he mentioned he was trying to put a band together. It was gonna have Gert from Building on drums, Erik Tilburg on guitar, and him on bass. This sounded like it was gonna be good. When he said they didn't have a singer yet I mentioned I would like to be taken into consideration. He said I was on the list. We then joked about how they should have people show up for try outs and send in resumes, since they had a pretty good line-up going. I kept thinking about this band for weeks, wondering what was happening, if they had a singer yet, if I would get to try out. Being in a band was my dream. They ended up picking Packo, the singer from Building. Whenever I asked them about the band it seemed like nothing was happening. Packo quit after about two practices I think, then Erik left to do The Uncontrollable. The other guys recruited Michiel on guitar, and were once again without a frontman.

One day I remembered the resume joke, so I thought I would apply for singer and be funny about it and actually send a resume to Coorde. I made up a whole list of stuff, most of it ridiculous, and hit send without thinking about it much. I didn't get a reply, but a few weeks later found out the email had been forwarded to about half the kids in Belgium. I guess he didn't get the joke, so now everyone thought I was a complete retard. Thanks Coorde.

So they got some dude to sing for them named Lino. It seemed like a big joke. Apparently he wasn't even into hardcore. I met him once. He was drunk and he said "So this is Spoiler? I think there's gonna be a fight tonight". At their first show I was still a little jealous, but I had to admit they were awesome. By the second show I was moshing.

That whole resume thing was a big scene favourite for a while, and most of you probably didn't know what exactly happened until you read this. But you know what, it doesn't really matter. It happened for a reason. Without it Justice would have never existed, our lives would have missed hours of laughter without a drunken Lino and his moustache (I miss you Lino!), and we would have never seen what we all know was the best hardcore band in the world.

Dead Stop Hooligan,
Spoiler

Epilogue: You are most likely reading this right before or right after the final Dead Stop show. Please be aware of how lucky you are to have been a part of it. It may sound drastic now but once they're gone you will realise how much they meant, how important they were and how great they were. I have already seen my last Dead Stop show. For me they are already gone. And I already know how much it all meant to me. The energy of the shows, the friends it made, the scene it built, the excitement it put into my life. And the hundreds of little personal memories surrounding Dead Stop. I will always remember... Dead Stop Hooligans!

Thanks Dave Byrd!

I first heard about Dead Stop in 2003, sometime after Striking Distance's European tour. In a bar in DC, Dave Byrd was wearing their shirt, telling me of this crazy, unheard of band from Belgium. While on tour, Striking Distance had the fortune of playing with Dead Stop, and the misfortune of having to play after them. Of course they blew him and everyone else away, leaving Striking Distance to follow the act.

Over the last couple years, I understand this has become quite a common occurrence, with American bands touring Europe and getting routinely blown away. Dead Stop has not only made the current Belgian scene known to other parts of the globe, but has given Europe a homegrown legend to be proud of in a time world where countless generic American bands take a lot for granted.

Since 2004, I've had the pleasure of touring with Dead Stop, of playing many shows with them in the US and in Europe, and of counting them as great friends. They are truly some of the most honest, generous and fun people I've ever known, as well as one of the best bands I believe hardcore will ever see. I am proud to have known them and lucky to have seen and played with them so many times. You will be greatly missed, but certainly not forgotten.

Now if only Lino would learn how to shave.

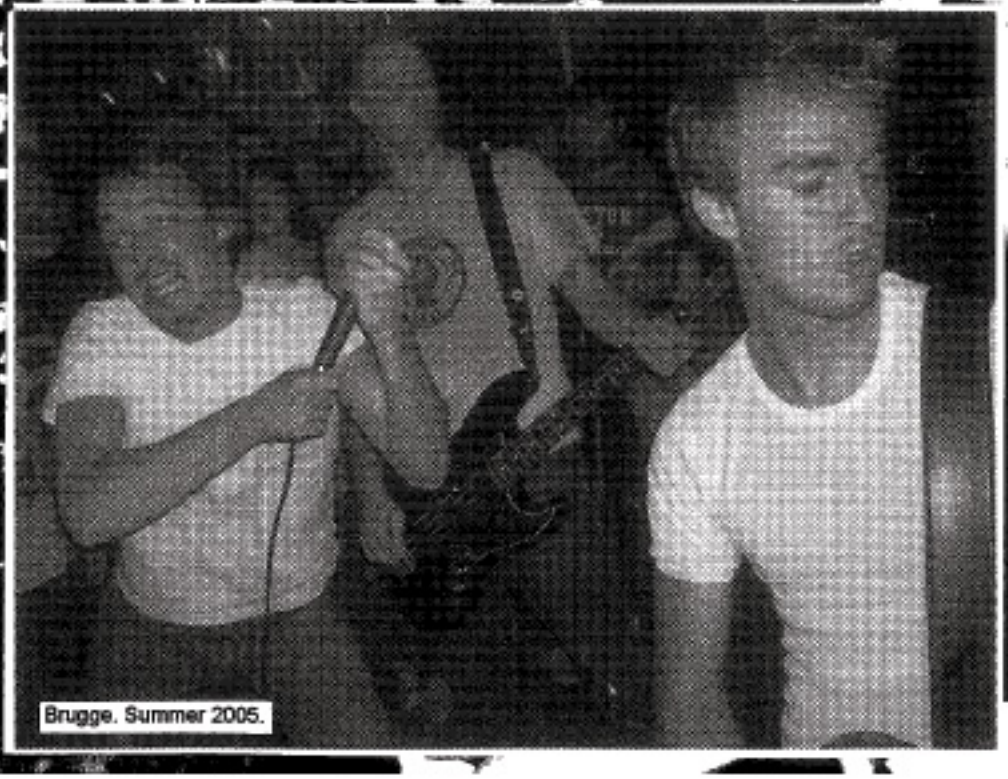
Jason Halal (86 Mentality)

Close minded? Maybe not.

Den Dead Stop... As the Belgians themselves say it. Or at least their large group of friends... Dead Stop. Once every few years there's one or two bands that start out as some sort of joke or maybe more as a 'fun thing to do' and all of a sudden gets picked up by thousands. Dead Stop was that band. I know the members were pretty close-minded when it came down to the music they liked. Close minded? Well, maybe not. I'm pretty sure that HARDCORE as they thought it should be, was exactly that what Dead Stop did. And boy, did they do it well!

I remember their first few shows and us, helping them out a little when they wanted to do that very first full-length, on their very own label. Something that was never really an issue either. Ofcourse, Reflections Records wouldn't have hesitated for a second if the band would've asked us to be their label, yet, somehow it never came up. Not from them, and not from us either. Dead Stop was one of a kind, a group of like minded kids, who should do things their own way (if you call your label "Complete Control" you don't have to ask questions, do you?) and we kept it that way. It simply never was an issue...

I'm actually glad they're calling it a day at this point. What else can a band like them accomplish? Two LP's and a 7". Perfect for a band with their style of music. European and US tours, they did it all. AND then what they didn't do... I know they never wanted to do the 'big' tours, or the 'big' festivals. Fuck, how many bands are doing it that way?



Brugge. Summer 2005.

And then those guys. I honestly never got to know them really well. Like I never really get to know that many people after all. But then again, we're all hardcore kids. We know eachother well enough. I remember talking to Michiel... Mainly about the 'business' side and taking care of stuff and getting things done. He's the serious guy I suppose. I even dare to say, that without him doing the 'business', Dead Stop would've never gotten this far. Coorde: bassplayer with little skills on those strings, but a hell of a lot of skills on a social level. I can't wait to hear him sing in his new band! Supernice guy... actually, when thinking of cool Belgian people, he's in my top 5! Gert: Progression anyone? I remember him when they started, just hitting whatever the hell he could to becoming the pretty tight unit that he is now. Love the way he loves metal and drives that luxury car. He always will be that young hardcore kid... I suppose he's no longer just that. Hopefully he will start a death metal band. Last but not least: Lino. Singer extra-ordinaire! Or should I say 'performer'? I, to this day, haven't figured that out. If he is for real on that stage, we'd better be afraid! Talking to him is like never knowing if he makes fun of you or not (especially when trying to talk Dutch!). Cool guys. All of them.

Dead Stop, in my mind, has set themselves as not just a footnote, but a very important band in the history of European hardcore. I'm glad I got to know them. Can't wait what's coming next, and Lino, we'll visit your restaurant. Even if it's just once in this lifetime!

Johan (Reflections Records)

Thanks for the manic ride!

To Dead Stop - Thanks for inviting me for the ride! Looking forward to listening to the first LP 10 years from now and still get the same shivers down my back!

All the best, Gord (Deranged Records)

Deadstooooooooooooooop.

I will always remember the sessions with Dead Stop at studio 195. Especially the "Done With You" session, which was their first at 195. It only took us three short evenings. After setting up and soundchecking the band played most songs just once or twice. That was that, guitar, bass and drums at the same time. The material hardly needed correcting. Then doubling the guitars and adding feedback, which strange enough took more time than expected. But then again that says everything about how sure Michiel is about where he wanted to take us. Dead Stop was going to take us back more than 20 years. When old school was a definition to a lot of styles of music. But certainly not punkrock. Punk was still fresh (although dead at the same time), new and underground. It was not cool to listen to punk. It was about not fitting in and rejecting the old-whatevers.

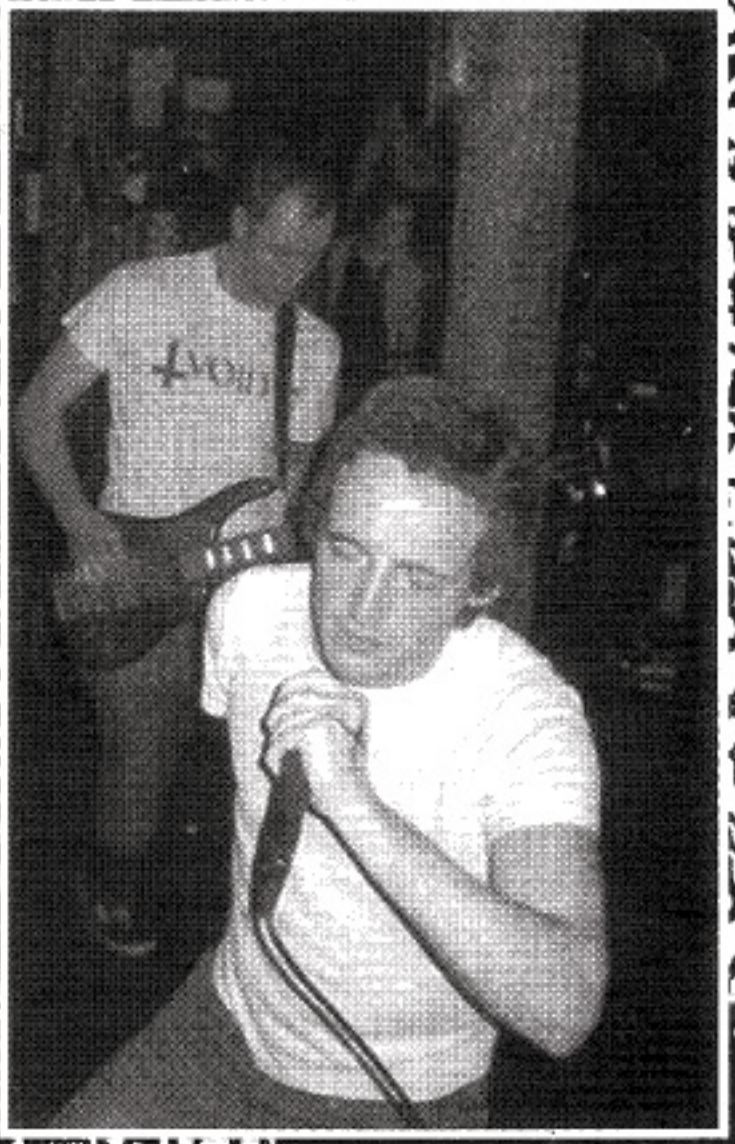
I remember buying the first Minor Threat at a local store, not even having heard of them before. Strange how all styles get recycled. I recorded (rubbish) heaps of punk in all its (some) artistic-free and (I'm afraid, most) conformist forms. No band ever sounded that 1981 overhere as Dead Stop. Gert's machine-gun drumming (what great rolls and poecha-poechas!) is most important for their sound. Coorde's basketball technigues translated into touch-and-go accentuated, court-fevered hardcore accuracy which stunned friend and enemy. Pre-moustache Lino. Didn't need a mic stand or plop-screen. A dented old SM58 did just fine. It took more time unravelling the mic lead every two or three songs than daring to explain something about microphone technigue ("Don't put it there Lino!"). How very punk rock. I remember there was spit on the peep-thru studio window. Not sure though if I'm gonna let this guy serve my food.

The mixing session was more like handling a nursery class telling everybody to be silent and listen to the music so I basically did it myself. I just love short songs with no fader moves at all. Most funny was my suggestion to add some Darby Crash style vocals on the last song of the album. I was going like "Deadstoooop, Deadstoooop" but as a reaction I saw a bunch of drug free youths with their eyeballs poppin'



Top: Michiel in Aachen. Although those leather jackets look retarded, they got really popular towards Dead Stop's end.
Bottom: Classic Coorde style at AJZ, Bielefeld, Germany. October 2005. Unofficial "Live For Nothing" releaseshow.





Top: Causing havoc in the UK. Insulting the audience, spitting at gays, fighting drunks, hanging out with Jelle in Arm's Reach. Great times. Although not many people attended the shows, Dead Stop's name got around quickly.
Bottom: First show ever. Lintfabriek. Kontich. May 19th 2002. Despite the shorts, this is not the Lintfabriek benefit show.



out. I took it as a "no". Actually it wasn't just a "no", they were making fun of me! How very punk rock!

Pat Delabie (Recording Studio 195)

Straight outta Stockholm

So back in 2003-2004 everyone was talking about this band from Belgium, but I didn't really care. Apparently they had an awesome demo, a killer 7" and now a mindblowing LP. I still didn't care. Eurobands usually don't do it for me so no matter how many good things people say about a band, I usually don't care. So I knew about the band that was entering the stage and yeah, I was still curious to see whether they deserved all the hype or not. I was standing on the side, while probably around 400-500 kids were waiting for the band to enter the stage, the "feeling was in the air" to say the least. The more people that went up front waiting the tension kept rising. They got on stage and... From the first chord that struck - I was hooked. The music, the feeling, the energy. All of a sudden I realized that my own narrow mind had let me down once again. Stagediving, moshing, singalongs. All the time. More than I'd seen in years, everything I love about hardcore was right there and the band that had brought the "feeling" was a band from Belgium. The band was called Dead Stop. The show was Ninja fest and never in my life had I seen such an energetic liveshow. You've probably seen the pictures and I had a hard time believing what I had just seen, it just couldn't sink in. Looking back I understand it was a huge mistake to overlook a band like Dead Stop but sometimes you need a reminder; Hardcore is universal and Dead Stop was most definitely one of the bands that made me realize that. All of a sudden I did care. Now, when their time is over, and I've seen them a couple of times - each time more mindblowing than the previous - I've got to know the music, the members and their love for Swedish veggie hot dogs and all I can say is that every aspect of this band will be missed.

Kalle Garmark (Stockholm)

I can drive a fucking tank!

What to say about Dead Stop? A band about which one could write a whole bunch of books. It's probably common knowledge how they changed lots of people's lives and their view on hardcore and how they will leave a mark on those people for the rest of their lives, obviously. So let's leave that aside. Another common fact is how they kinda blew away each and every American hardcore band visiting this beloved mainland. Now I can recall a few times where it was quite the opposite.

Thanks to Complete Control bookings I got the opportunity to go on tour with Violent Minds, for which I can't thank 'em enough to be honest. Anyways, I must say this band kinda proved quite the opposite of what's been stated all the time. Not that Dead Stop got blown away but at some times I thought they weren't really that representative for what they were as a band. But I blame the overall sound. Ofcourse this is hardcore after all so who gives a shit. It didn't stop me from making the most of it. On tour Coorde got re-baptised as "the fun police" since Violent Minds claimed that he was taking away all of their fun, haha. We took Lino on a fun trip through some boring ass Swedish village which ended up in Zach acting like he got thrown out of the van in the middle of a semi-crowded street and trying to get back in the van. This scene was constantly repeated throughout the whole town into some weird little forest where we ended up driving on a bike path while Michiel and Gert only got bummed out by 'those stupid Americans'. All this equals good times! Too bad we only toured together with them for only a week, and fucking missed out on two shows by outer space activities.

By the end of that tour both bands gathered again at the Light The Fuse fest and boy, this Dead Stop set must've been one of the most violent sets I witnessed of 'em. I also guess it had been since the time metallic 'hardcore' reigned over Belgium that I had this sort of fear and adrenaline pumping from this aggressive vibe. So thanks a bunch for convincing me of the

fact you guys probably had a bad hair day. I just wanted to say that there 'once' was a US band who was actually equal to the vibe Dead Stop could maintain live. As was 86 Mentality!

When I'll be thinking of Dead Stop I will totally remember these three shows (in no particular order): Mannheim hardcorefest '04 with Knife Fight, Annihilation Time, Cut The Shit and various others. Thrashfest '04 Hoogeveen with as good as the same line-up as the Mannheim show and that one Light The fuse show. I'm sure those who witnessed those shows will also never forget the intense atmosphere that I went through. Of course I will remember their release shows -except for the 7" party- but yet again that's just another common Dead Stop fact!

Tok (Hustler fanzine)

I really did miss out...

When I started getting back into the thick of things hardcore wise last year (2005), I asked around what were some of the hottest bands around. People gave me a few but none stood out like this band called Dead Stop. When I put on the first record, I was floored by the crazy hardcore music coming out of my speakers. Who was this band? They played like they were around in 1982 and sounded like they were eating The Abused 7"s for breakfast (maybe that would account for that records rarity). I could listen to "Kiss My Ass" over and over without getting sick of it. Just my luck would have it, they were coming over for a short US tour (I found that they were in the US a year or two before). I was set and determined to see them especially since I saw "Atlanta" on the list. Sadly, it said "TBA" on it next to venue. Now I've been around the block enough to know that's not a positive thing when it comes to a hardcore band touring. I then e-mailed the record label to find out more and they stayed in touch. A couple of weeks later, maybe a week before they are going to fly over, they label writes me asking if I know of anybody putting on shows. Me? I lived in Atlanta for 4 years out in the sticks and the only band I got to see was Rollins doing Black Flag in 2003. So I had to say I didn't. Right then and there, I had a bad feeling that I wouldn't get to see Dead Stop. I heard nothing until the day before the proposed show. "There is a show in Atlanta! We'll let you know where it is." Hmmm....things are looking up! I should have gave them my number because I didn't hear anything further until 10:30 pm the next night when I checked my e-mail..."We are here right now! Show starts in a few minutes!" It stated the place but sadly...it was very late and I was 30 miles away at that. I had to decline and felt bad about that because they could use every warm body there. I'm glad that show went well though, they deserved it and the people there probably don't know how luckily they were to see them.

So to Dead Stop, I wish you wouldn't quit but it's a known fact that the best bands break up quickly. That way you can never get washed up...good luck in all of your other endeavours!

Dave Koenig (Hardware fanzine)

De koek is op

The first thing I remember regarding Dead Stop was this time when Doms and Van Hest came back from a show at the Lintfabriek and told me that there was this new band I simply had to see, called Dead Stop. Since those guys are not the typical "I like every hardcore band" type of dudes I was anxious to hear something. After I picked up the demo from Coorde I was hooked on this band. The thing I loved the most about Dead Stop was the sheer brutality during their live shows. I consider their period in between the 2 full-lengths as their best one. During that time they played countless awesome shows that attracted all kinds of different crowds. It didn't matter if they played for punks, straight edge kids, metalheads or early 80's hardcore kids... everyone was sure to have a blast! All the Lintfabriek shows are ofcourse the absolute highlights. Everyone who visited the Dead Stop "Done With You" release show has experienced the closest we'll probably ever come to an early 80's hardcore show. It's a sad thing that a more than great band stops playing but I understand. "De koek is op". What more can a hardcore band do? I'm going to wrap this up with some of my favourite Dead Stop memories...

Gert beating the shit out of his drumkit while standing on his two feet and kicking the drumchair away, at the Dead Stop "Live For Nothing" release show.

The sketchy eagle t-shirt.

Selling more England tour t-shirts in Holland than in England.

Coorde's classic bass moves.

Larry hitting a car while leaving a show and just continuing to drive and acting like nothing has happened.

The Dead Stop hooligan t-shirts. A little ridiculous but who cares....

Gert beating the shit out of a drumkit owned by a Friesland giant, weighing 125 kilos and measuring 2 metres.

Visiting Barcelona and hanging out.
The birth of Complete Control Records!

Hallee,
Alex (Evacuate bookings)



Memories from the Dead Stop/Knife Fight 2004 European Tour

As time moves on, my memory is not what it once was. Details of the tour are fuzzy at best, but here's what sticks out the most: Waking up to the sound of Coorde driving the van's side mirror into a street sign, causing the passenger window to shatter, covering Graham in broken glass. Waiting all afternoon in London for someone to come take a look at the Dead Stop van (which had broken down), and Lino singing and dancing for change from pedestrians (apparantly Brits are a bit more polite than Americans. The looks on their faces were priceless). Lino's constant impressions of Body Count era Ice T. Getting our van stuck on a large rock in the middle of Sweden (I guess that one's for Bart, since Dead Stop weren't on that leg of the tour), and thinking it was going to cost all the money we had left to fix it, only to find out that nothing was wrong. The insanity of the Dead Stop record release show (our one good show in Europe!); you'd think Minor Threat was playing a reunion! Dead Stop blowing us off the stage every night (not that that's a difficult task, but it was still fun to watch). The truck stop in Italy where they called the cops on us for being 15 people in the store in the middle of the night and everyone still managing to steal anything not bolted down. The dude in London telling us we were the worst band he had ever seen and that he wanted to break our records. Yelling various subversive comments at German punks only to have them ask if we are comedians. Did I mention the record release show yet?

Jon Westbrook (Knife Fight)

Wij volgen onze helden overal!!!

I can't think of Dead Stop without thinking of a group of 20 dudes, sometimes more, sometimes less, who were always around and ready to follow Dead Stop to the edge of the world and back. Dudes that normally would have never hung out at all, became fellow mashers and maybe even friends. After the show we'd head to Antwerp to eat Italian food and Coorde would eat the leftovers, Gert would act intolerant towards anything not straight edge, Lino would be cuddling people and Michiel would talk about hardcore or Venice Beach. There's so much aspects about being friends with those guys and loving their band the way we all did. I mean, I could just talk for a couple of hours about how for the first couple shows, they always started their set with "Dead Stop" and Michiel would start the first riff and tensed the whole room up like he was shooting electricity right out of his guitar and Gert's drumroll would untense it like a fucking 200 ton waterfall coming down on everyone... by then, nobody was where he was before and everyone was everywhere. Those were the best three seconds of my life in '03-'04, every week again.

I have no idea what Dead Stop meant to hardcore on a global scale, but I don't care, they were our Bad Brains, our Negative Approach, our Minor Threat, our chance to get a taste of what we all read about in old fanzines, on record sleeves, and saw on old videos. And even beyond that, because we weren't trying to copy anything from the past, we weren't trying to be American kids living in the 80's, we were from Belgium, we had Dead Stop and we were better than the rest.

Stief (Justice)

They restored my faith in hardcore.

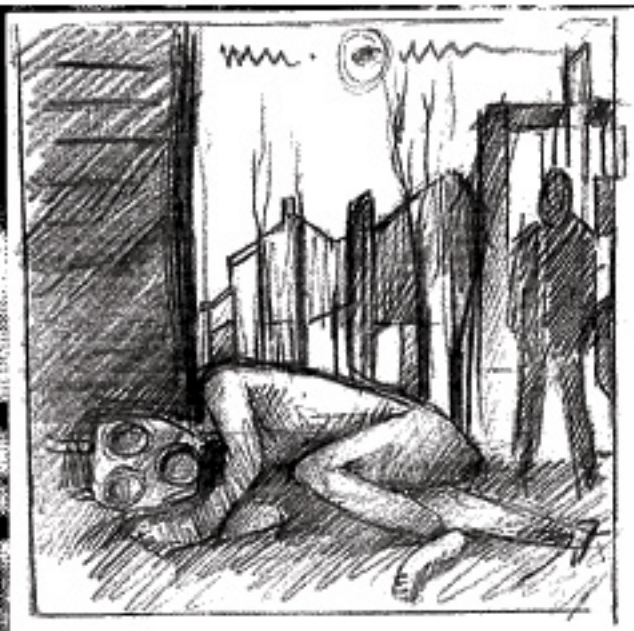
What can I say about Dead Stop that hasn't been said before? They've reached goals that many other bands never reached in all the years of their existence. Maybe it's a smart move to stop at their peak, surely they will be missed. They were refreshing between all these bands that care more about image than anything else. A Dead Stop show was a unique experience, you felt the vibe. It was short, fast and furious, how it should be done. I remember seeing them at a Good Life fest and to me they were the band that stood out. Nothing fancy about them, not too difficult to understand, just hardcore how it was played in the 80's. They restored my faith in hardcore. In Dead Stop's honour I raise the glass high and salute them! They will be missed!

UxJx (OG Liar)

Boston Mass is the rippenest town

You know, I can't even remember what show it was but, sometime in 2002, I was at the original Regeneration space in Dorchester, MA and met a couple of guys who told me they were from Belgium—their names were Bart and Larry and one of them handed me a cassette demo of a band called Dead Stop. It immediately caught my attention because I figured they'd named their band after the Negative Approach demo. I have my copy right here and it's numbered #76 out of 100 and I'm honored to have a copy. I put it in the deck the next morning while driving to pick up my mail and it immediately hit me between the ears. Tight, old-school hardcore yet still modern-sounding. The songs were catchy and angry, loud and fast. A sound that I'll never get tired of—that I keep going back to because of its directness. It was the same with their









Sketches for the "Done With You" record by Rob Middleton.

debut 7", which I originally got on a CD-R and that had three covers of Negative Approach, Reagan Youth and Minor Threat tacked on the end, an appropriate tribute to their roots. All the songs from the demo appeared on the 7" but with superior production.

Two albums, "Done With You" and "Live For Nothing" followed the demo and 7" and the sound was never diluted. Blazing guitars, hard-hitting drums and Lino's agitated vocals. New wrinkles occasionally showed up—the ominous "Endtro" to "Rather Be Nothing" and tense "Erase" on the first album. The second LP came in a cool gatefold sleeve and the gray-hued graveyard on the cover was, perhaps, a signal of the band's upcoming split. On this album, Dead Stop added a few harder-rocking impulses without going metal. "Letting Go" ends the album with a twisting riff following something of a similar pattern as Slapshot's "Same Mistake," also adding some slide guitar in the process. The final recorded salvo.

Dead Stop got stateside twice and I had the pleasure seeing them play two shows here. The first was in a pretty large Polish hall in Dorchester in November of 2004, playing with the sick 86 Mentality (still their only local appearance, unfortunately), Mind Eraser, Mental and Say Goodbye. A formidable hardcore bill and Dead Stop had the pit going from the first note. The other time was at the new Regeneration Records, a record store, tattoo parlor and awesome show space in the Allston neighborhood of Boston. Allston can be a hipster haven and haunted by obnoxious college students, frat assholes, etc.. but Regen is one of the great things about the neighborhood. It's a small space that can hold about 100 or so people and, up front, everyone is close together and it can get crazy when a raging band plays. The Dead Stop show in November of 2005 was a sweatbox. Lino's hair and body were soaked with sweat and he wasn't the only one. I had a great perch, sitting on the monitor at the side of the stage, snapping photos and having my head damn near blown off by the volume attack. I heard about the band's breakup and how the show at Regen was their last US appearance. It's a pity, of course, but at least they got over here and gave everyone their money's worth, at least at this show. No violence, no fighting, just everyone getting a charge from Dead Stop's high energy set.

I love the fact that so many foreign (well, to the US) bands have come over here in recent years. Even when there's a language barrier, there's still a musical connection, a feeling that punk and hardcore really is a worldwide community and Dead Stop certainly contributed to that...

Al Quint (Suburban Voice fanzine)

The end of an era!

Two weeks ago I received an email from my friend Larry to write something about Dead Stop. Shows, memories, the friendships I made during their existence. Well I could write for days and still it would do no justice to them. But I will try to write something about some of the roadtrips I had so I could see them play in Germany, Belgium and ofcourse the Netherlands.

I will start with the difficulties I had before the "Done With You" releaseparty. A week before the show I got to hear that I could not borrow the car, since I was looking forward to this show so much, I almost burst into tears. Knowing that this would be the show that I would remember for years to come or maybe even for the rest of my life. This show I could not miss. Looking for possibilities by taking the train was the last option I had. Until someone told me that a friend of mine maybe had a seat for me in his car. I mailed him and got to hear that the car was full already. The evening before the show he sent me an sms telling me that there was a place left in his car, I went berserk that night. I could go to the show. That day in Kontich I met some really nice and cool people that became friends I would not wanna miss anymore. The show of Dead Stop that night I cannot describe, it was completely crazy. Five minutes before the show a group of 50 guys walked in with Dead Stop Hooligan shirts as a surprise for the band. It was clear to me that this evening would only bring smiles and happiness to everyone involved. The intro starts and within 20 seconds I see 20 to 30 friends of mine flying all over. Larry, Theflex, Stief to the Positief, Flip and Tuffin (German t-shirt ripper) just to name a few ruling the show upfront. The GLUE is taking over Europe (??? - editor) by storm and this is their hometown, better watch out. This was by far one of the most insane shows I've seen in quite some time. On the way back home I realized how happy I was to have seen this show.

A few weeks later Dead Stop are playing at the Hoogeveen Trashfest. A lot of good bands playing that day, some of them also played at the Dead Stop releaseshow, Knife Fight, The Rites, Cut The Shit. But today there is something besides the shows and that's the soccermatch between Way

Back Ron, Erik Tilburg, Lino, Theflex, Kris Coorde and some other guys against the German kids. The Dead Stop guys and friends win this game with 4 to 3 and the German kids already ask for a rematch at a later Trashfest.

Like I said there were some good bands playing that day. But it seemed that after the memorable release show Hoogeveen was anxious to see Dead Stop. As soon as the intro starts the place turns into a frenzy. Again all I see is happy faces, in my opinion Dead Stop is one of the few bands that can make people happy. All the classics are played. It doesn't matter if they play their own songs or coversongs everyone loves Dead Stop here, just like in their hometown Kontich.

After this show I saw Dead Stop a lot of times. Like in Hengelo where a lot of people are waiting for Lino to show up after his soccer game. This show again amazed me, Larry comes up with the car, Dead Stop starts the intro. Crowd goes crazy, doors fly open, Lino runs up to the stage and the show goes off. One of the hardest shows by Dead Stop, since a lot of people are already gone because of the timeschedule of trains in the Netherlands there is a lot of space to move. But this show is worth staying over for in Hengelo, even if it means sleeping on the street or a bench. Luckily for me I have a ride back with Way Back Ron. Without him I probably wouldn't have seen Dead Stop as much as I have now. He is the one that always drives and offers me to ride along.

After having seen Dead Stop a lot of times I was anxious to see them in Amsterdam. A lot of shows in Amsterdam always turn out bad. Two days before the third release show Dead Stop plays one of their best shows in my experience. The place goes crazy. At first I did not feel well. But I have to go upfront and sing along again, Dead Stop changed Amsterdam. That same night Clint is there. A friend of mine and Ronald from Australia (lived in England), he also was there at Trashfest and will be at the releaseshow for the "Live For Nothing" record. Coorde asks us if we wanna go to the show in Belgium on friday. Since Dead Stop was so good we did not hesitate and said yes. He also offered us to sleep at his place. On friday we went to the show near Brugge and it took some time before we found the place. The show by Dead Stop was good but there are not that many people tonight.

We go back to Antwerp, Gert showed us the way. In Antwerp we are gonna eat something with Coorde's housemates Stief, Tombeur and Hingie. We order falafel with French fries but did not know they would put it inside the roll with falafel. That was weird, not bad though. I could eat it again anytime.

That morning we go shopping for drinks and food to be prepared for the Dead Stop show. It's really good weather, there are lots of good bands that day and ofcourse the opportunity to buy a Dead Stop record with limited release show cover. Standing in line, I try to get my wallet. I ask Theflex to put one aside and I will pay you later. He hears me wrong and thinks I have no money. Finally I get my wallet and give him 50 euros which leads to some funny moments. "You had no money" he says, I could not grab my wallet because of the pressure of lots of people wanting that record.

Happy with that record, I was waiting for the show. Clint is standing next to me, telling me he cannot go crazy because of his knee. Seconds after the intro started the whole place is moving. I think Clint forgot about his knee for that show, he is also going crazy like everyone else and again like I described earlier everyone is having fun and is smiling. After that show I realise that I have been to one of the best shows that I will ever experience in my life. No Motley Crue or Morrissey show will ever beat that and if you know me a bit you know how much I love Morrissey and Motley Crue.



Now I have been describing some of the shows I went to but what I remember most is the people that always surrounded Dead Stop. I am happy that I became friends with guys such as Larry, Theflex, Dossche, Tuffin and so many more. One of the friends I made does deserve some special attention. I have known her for a long time, but never really talked to her until she became friends with Way Back Ron. Ofcourse I am talking about Sophia. The first time I really got to know her better was at a roadtrip to a Dead Stop show in Ibbenburen. That day they played with Direct Control. Ronald asked me to come along. Also Sophia drove along and I am not really sure about it but in my memory it seems that I laughed all the time when she was talking or doing goofy things. Especially the camouflage was something worth remembering and mentioning.

That same night Dead Stop was talking about the artwork for the new record. The new Justice album was just out and they were discussing it. Lino and I talked about "The River" by Bruce Springsteen. That would be a funny thing, just to put Lino's head on the cover like Bruce Springsteen did on that album. But since Gert does not like Bruce Springsteen and Kris thought that Lino already got enough attention we decided to quit about it. But at this moment Bruce Springsteen comes to mind again, not because of Lino but because of the last show. The album "Darkness On The Edge Of Town" comes to mind if you think that the last show is gonna be in Kontich, which is on the edge of Antwerp. Thank you Dead Stop for all the memories and friendships. I will miss you dearly. Gert,Lino,Michiel en Kris bedankt voor alles.

Mazzel Gijs

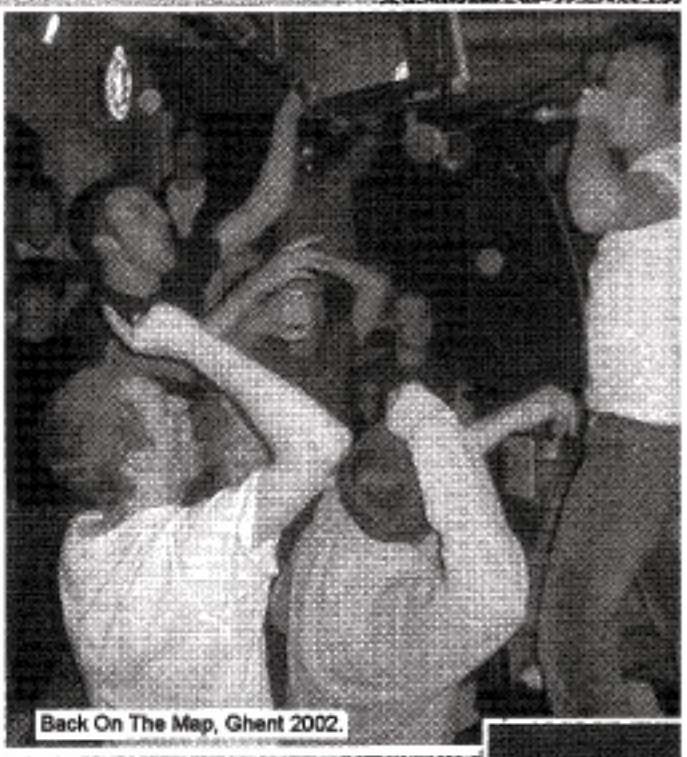
It's no nice music

First of all let me tell you my mind is pretty blurry but who cares anyway. I'm gonna dig up some of my earliest memories about Dead Stop.... I saw Dead Stop on their first show on May 19th 2002 in the Lintfabriek. It was Kill Your Idols last European show and Reproach played too. Coorde told me earlier about his new band and he said it sounded like Negative Approach and SSD, Gert was on drums who I knew from his Building days and I know that guy loves the early 80's Boston hardcore bands so I was really curious what they would sound like. I didn't know Michiel and Lino at the time, but the first time I saw Lino hanging out at a show in Brasschaat (I think American Nightmare played?) I was impressed by his moustache and he gave me a hug. What a nice dude. OK back to their first show.... they came on and immediately started playing fast and hard. To the point, short songs and a great sound.

No bullshit, this was hardcore how I loved it. I think their set was over in 10-15 minutes and left us all hungry for more. They also did some covers, I think "Reagan Youth" and some others but my mind fails me here.

Phil and Sapé from Reflex records were impressed too and they put Dead Stop on the bill of a show they were putting on the next week. May 26th 2002, JH Tijl in Diest. One of the coolest shows I ever been to. The Furious, 2 Steps Back, Reproach, All Tensed Up, The Essentials and of course Dead Stop. Compared to the crowded Dead Stop shows nowadays there weren't many people, but all the kids who were at that show totally went berserk. Everyone was moshing and thrashing around, singing along...good times.

The Dead Stop demo came out too. Phil Reflex called me up and he was really excited, he said Lino totally sounded like fucking John Brannon. I picked up the demo not long after and I was floored. It was raw as shit. Belgium needed a band like Dead Stop at the time. Things were different back then, mostly shitty bands, kids who didn't have a clue, and at most shows people were just standing there with their hands crossed 10 meters from the stage. Belgian kids who knew Negative Approach at the time could be counted on 2 hands. Dead Stop introduced bands like Reagan Youth, Negative Approach, Society System Decontrol, Antidote, Void to a lot of kids at the time. More and more people got into Dead Stop, more and more people started moshing/ thrashing/ slamdancing/ stagediving/ whatever more and more people started to pick up the old classic records and some amazing shows took place.



Back On The Map, Ghent 2002.

Reflex records who re-released stuff like DYS, Negative FX,.. at that time wanted to put out the first Dead Stop 7" and they started the Wolfpack label for that purpose. The record release show at the Lintfabriek was awesome too. It looked like those old Negative Approach / SSD pictures you see, a shitload of kids stagediving and having a great time, home made shirts, crazy chaotic pits, it was like a time warp to 1982 or something. I spent the whole afternoon before that show looking for a white shirt and writing "Dead Stop" on it as cool as I could. I made the "T" in "Stop" like an upside down cross. It was fun.



A lot of kids could relate to Dead Stop. When you just had a shitty week at work or school or whatever the hell you do you could go to a Dead Stop show and take it all out in the 15 minutes they played. That's what makes it important. It's not "nice" music, it's not "friendly", it's aggressive and you could get all your frustrations out at their shows. Dead Stop destroyed everything in their path and I'm glad we were able to play a bunch of great shows with these duders.

A band we'll all remember, Stijn Reproach (Reproach)

Buddies for life!!!

Since day one in their 4 year existence Dead Stop were always surrounded by a bunch of fanatics: the Dead Stop Hooligans. These dudes and dudettes would follow them around wherever they would play a show, at every gig the Hooligans were present. Over the years I've seen a fair amount of their shows and in different countries as well .The only Dutch hooligan who saw more of their shows is Erik Tilburg. I can live with that fact. Erik also filled in for Kris on bass on several occasions whenever Kris couldn't manage to take time off from work. Looking back now the end is in sight I asked myself: Did I see enough Dead Stop shows? Well I've seen them play shows a few days in a row, even 2 shows on 1 day and I was still not satisfied and hungry for more. So I guess the answer to that question is pretty easy and predictable too: NO! You can never see enough Dead Stop shows in a lifetime! Roadtrips with likeminded friends are awesome, driving for 2-3 hours to see these guys play 20 minutes may sound pretty ridiculous to a lot of people out there but it was all worth it, every single time. If you haven't seen these dudes play live you have missed out on something unique. The majority of the shows I've seen were above average compared to other bands I've seen live. Their 3 record release shows are among the best hardcore shows I've ever attended. The 7" release show sick to say the least, the "Done With You" release party was off the hook. With the release show of "Live For Nothing" they basically destroyed everything they had done previous to that date. All of these shows took place at Europe's best hardcore venue "Lintfabriek" in Kontich. The chemistry between the band and the audience in their "hometown" is indescribable. You have to see this before you believe it, I can only imagine what their last show ever will look like, be present, be upfront and be prepared!



Over the last 2 decades I've seen a bunch of bands that were really important to me at some point in my life: Youth of Today, Los Crudos, Code 13, Agnostic Front, MDC, DRI are just a few of them that left a big impression on me. I've travelled and saw bands that never made it to Europe: Life's Halt, Total Fury, Talk is Poison, Capitalist Casualties, Lack of Interest, Final Conflict. Last year I had the opportunity to go to Japan with Seein Red. They played shows with Deride, Hammer, Framtid and Gauze (best live band ever!). Awesome bands that might not be able to make it to Europe ever. If foreign people talk about legendary Dutch hardcore they probably name BGK, Lärm and Pandemonium. I've seen them play too while they were around in the 80's and needless to say they were good. All of them left their marks on the hardcore scene, local and international. Dead Stop have been a real important band, not just for me but also for their scene. They're one of the reasons why younger kids started looking back into 80's hardcore and learn about bands that put out records while they were still wearing dipers! So in a way it's shame they call it quits now, while they're still a great band, but on the other hand there's no need to put out 2 bad records and split up like their Boston forefathers did over 20 years ago...



Belgiums finest will always be remembered. I'm sure all the dudes will sooner or later appear in other bands. So keep an eye out for them, especially Lino's new project called: BUDDIES FOR LIFE!

Ronald (Way Back When Records)

DFC!

What can I say about these Belgian bastards? I hear all this shit about early eighties style hardcore. I hear people say stop rehashing the past. They say "fuck that progress, we regress". Lemme tell ya something. Besides a few shitty years in the early nineties, hardcore has always been fast and pissed off. Period. That bein' said, Dead Stop fucking raged. The only thing I've seen "regressing" was Lino's mustache. I pretty much hate ninety percent of the crap being passed off as hardcore nowadays, but these guys definitely ain't in that lot. Whenever I hear "My Life", I still feel like smashing stuff. Touring with them was off the hook. Best straight edge drinking buddies you could meet. I wish I could've made it to the last show. Lino, Coorde. Gert. Michiel and Larry, what can I say? Cheers, it's been a blast. Hooligans on the loose! DFC beach!

Steve (86 Mentality)

Cut the shit, we regress!!!

My first encounter with Dead Stop was when Lino, Gert, and Coorde came on vacation in the U.S. a few years ago. I am not entirely sure how they got in touch with us, but I remember coming home and seeing a note tacked to the wall that "four Belgian dudes called to say they might be coming over tonight." When I got home from practice much later that night they were sitting on my couch watching tv with my non-punk roommate, who later informed me that by the time I got home Lino had already proposed to her. I spent the weekend driving them around listening to Bad Brains on repeat and watched them spend an obscene amount of money on records. At some point we traded cdr's of records our bands had just recorded. I remember listening to theirs in my room and being blown away by how good it was. What I don't remember is apparently coming downstairs at 5am half-dressed and waking them up to tell them how fucking awesome I thought Dead Stop was. Gert and Lino swear this really happened, but I think they're full of shit.



Light The Fuse 2004.

The first time I saw them play live as a band was while Cut The Shit was on tour in Europe and we were fortunate enough to play their LP record release show. Seeing a sold out room of people all singing along and freaking out was one of the most awe inspiring sights I have ever witnessed. I was completely floored. On that tour we got to spend a lot of time together, playing shows and otherwise. A few nights later Gert and his girlfriend gave me a scenic tour of Ghent while driving me to the emergency room after I sliced my chest and stomach open with a bottle on stage. They were totally cool about waiting while the nurse stitched me up. I still owe him for that one.

Dead Stop finally toured the U.S. with 86 Mentality that fall. I only got to see them once in Boston on that tour. They played an incredibly energetic set despite what I thought was a smaller turn out than they deserved.

The next time they came to the States, I had the good sense to see them as many times as possible. Even after being on a plane for 6 hours, they killed at their first show in New Jersey.



Visloen, Brugge. 2002.

When no one else was willing to drive to Canada to see them, I ended up taking a Greyhound bus (which I do not recommend for crossing international borders). It was there, in Montreal, that I saw Dead Stop play the single greatest hardcore set, ever. Everything about it was perfect: Michiel, Coorde and Gert were all spot-on, Lino was ever the perfect madman of a singer, heckling some frog who tried giving him shit about his mustache, and they did an encore of something like five Bad Brains covers that only ended when Gert stood up and knocked over his drums. The next night they played their last show of the tour in Boston. This time around, kids wised up and showed up to see the almighty Dead Stop. Those who posed truly missed out. It was probably one of the best shows in Boston since the Rat closed in the late 90's. Dead Stop were the only band that I have ever travelled to two countries to see. They will most likely be the last. I am really sad to know that they are calling it quits, but consider myself fortunate to have had a chance to see the greatest hardcore band of our time, and to be able to call them my friends.

Each generation has a few bands that are remembered for their innovation and ability to capture the sound and feelings of the times; The sixties saw Wayne Kramer and the MC5 kick out the jams, shoot at the pigs, and lead the white auxiliary of the Black Panthers; while Iggy and the Stooges walked on hands and smeared peanut butter, or broken glass, depending on the night, across his chest. The seventies exploded with the Ramones, the Pistols and Dead Boys. The eighties witnessed the birth of hardcore with bands like Minor Threat, Big Boys, Negative Approach, Bad Brains and Black Flag all rising to legendary status. And who fucking cares about the nineties, because we have Dead Stop. In my eyes, they are just as every bit as important as any of those bands. They reaffirm my belief that punk is still as relevant today as it was thirty years ago.

Live for nothing. May 2006 Andrew CTS

Dead Stop will come to an end and in a way I think things kind of come to an end for all of us because of that.

Besides being thankful towards Dead Stop for the huge amount of inspiring shows and teaching us about bands like the Bad Brains, Reagan Youth, Antidote and Negative Approach, I also have to thank them for kind of "launching" Justice. It never felt like they looked at us as being those little dudes with their new little band, but more like we were one of them. Those dudes were probably the first to give a shit about Justice...they quietly gave us a a push in the back, without us asking for it and without wanting anything in return. Light The Fuse 2004... Gert sure saved our ass there.

The clueless often called 'em arrogant, but we never felt that way, quite the contray actually. And even if they would've been arrogant, they did have a certain right to be 'cause they were the best band in Europe, with at that time only a 7" under their belt. Dead Stop wasn't like every other band. Where others lost track or let other people take care of their business and what not, Dead Stop remained stubborn and did things their way. In that aspect Dead Stop was a huge influence on Justice... that stubborn independence. All this quickly led to the brilliant plan of starting their own record label, to be called Complete Control Records. It definitely wasn't the easiest road to take, but it sure was the best one. Justice was also looking for a label around that time, but we couldn't really find a label that totally suited us. When Michiel told us about the ideas and ethics behind Complete Control, he also asked us if we wanted to join in. Being on the same label as Dead Stop? We didn't have to think twice about that! I'm guessing this was one of the reasons why Restless Youth joined the label as well, Dead Stop ruled and they didn't owe it to anyone but themselves.

Never did Dead Stop do anything they'd have to regret or could be frowned upon for by others later. Except for maybe the Greek tour shirts! They even played Funtime Fest (organized by a shitty Belgian emo label) and made sure all their friends got in for free (with the money they made by playing). From the first chord that was struck kids were diving off speakers, Lino got a right hook from Larry and Spoiler moshed.

Flip (Justice)

$$$

I'm not writing anything unless I'm getting paid.

Tuffin (de Zone)

My bit of blurb

DEAD STOP has a 6 member its Linos 'tash.....my o my...what a killa snide that is. toally sums up what they DEAD STOP are about.....rough and ready!! it dosnt get the respect from people it deserves. when DEAD STOP played NiGhT OF ThE LiVinG DeaD in 2004 with VOORHESS onthe ferry boat. I cudnt keep my eyes off the little bleeder..... the tasty little slug that it was, i wanted to pan fry it and dip in some plum sauce. mmmmmm.....wud of bin a tasty snack indeed!!. if the boat sank.....i was on standby with a lifejacket for the little sukka.....the energy that comes from that bit of fuzz bowls me over. Im listening to the music.....watching the band out the corner of my eye.....but my focus is on that bit of upper lip static!!.....its a beast.....and it evin inspired one of ours songs.....ill miss them dearly.....love and kisses...

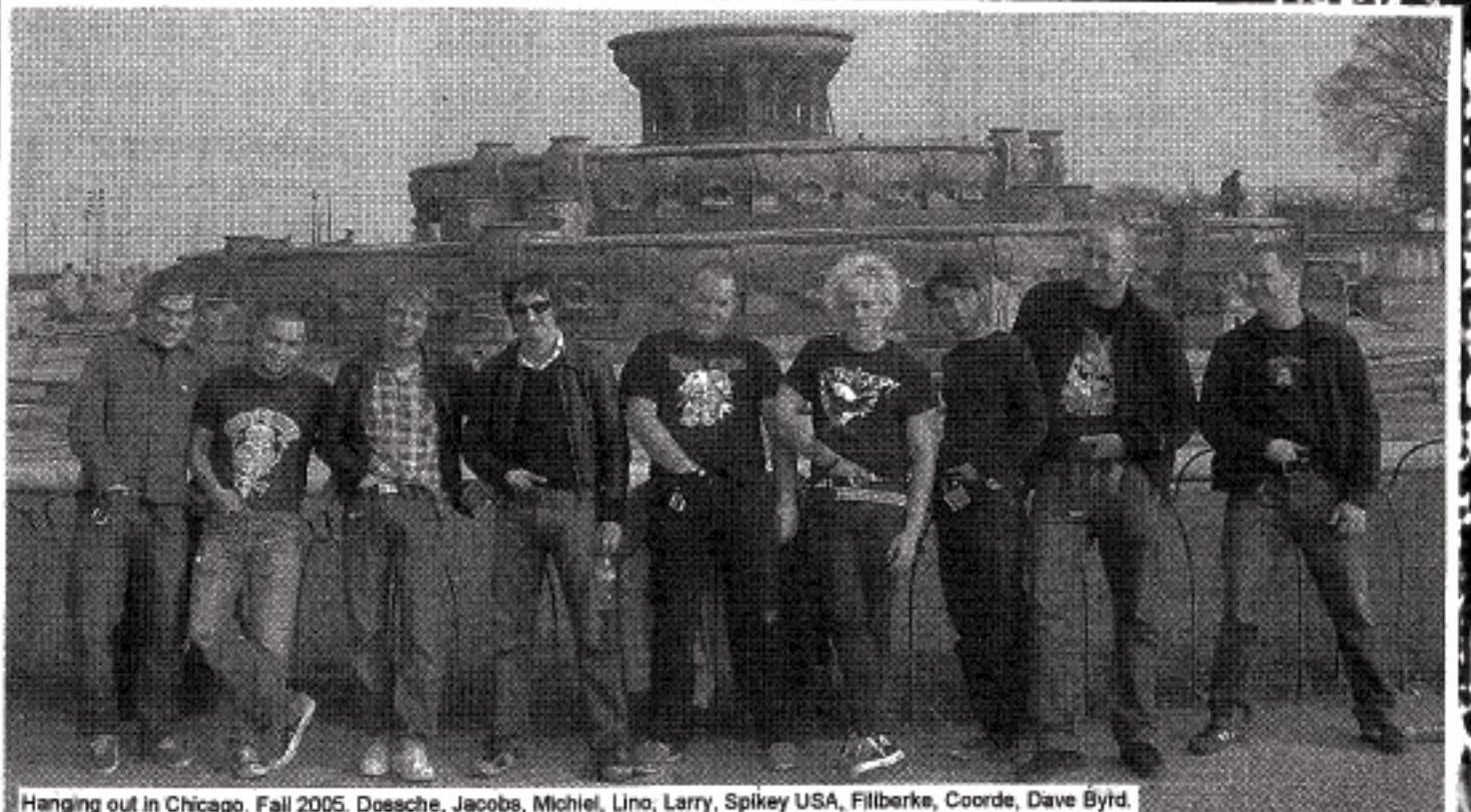
Foxy (SSS / Thrashgig Records)

Borsallino speaks...

Talking about a Belgian band that hit me by surprise from their first show on! The raw and energetic hardcore/punk power that I only witnessed in the late eighties... It took almost 20 years to have a band with that style back on the European map. Dead Stop did bring that vibe back in the last couple of years, every show was a blast and a pleasure to watch.

Each member of the band has his own story and personality... Coorde, whom I've personally known for a pretty long time now, is a true punker and a guy that will stick around forever. Destined to grow old in this scene and doomed to hang out with kids sometimes 20 years younger than him. Welcome to the club I would say. Michiel could be a Venice surf dude, his guitarstyle and sound is pretty unique. A raw and dry punk type of sound that makes up the Dead Stop style. I even think the man brought back the 80's styled leather jacket, that many copied afterwards. Gert, I've known since the early Building days... A band whose records I released on my now disbanded label. Back then he was a loudmouthed, provocative straight edge kid that once handed me a sticker that said "metal is murder", I loved it. He hasn't changed a bit... Lino, the charismatic personality and singer that became a pretty good friend, someone I like to hang out with, something we only do after a show or on the occasional Gentse Feesten night.

I will remember Dead Stop as the band that made the audience go apeshit during their mostly 20 minute long set, where one can sieg-heil during their Reagan Youth cover without being called 'nazi scum'. The band that didn't sign any contracts nor gave in to label business, since they released and distributed everything through their own label Complete Control (the name says it all), be it releases, skateboards or merchandise.



Hanging out in Chicago. Fall 2005. Doesche, Jacobs, Michiel, Lino, Larry, Spikey USA, Fillberke, Coorde, Dave Byrd.







Dead Stop took over the whole European continent and the States and now they're calling it a day, in the heat of battle so to say. Let's hope that the members of this band will start up 4 new bands that will have the same impact Dead Stop had and then we're safe for the coming years.

Thanks!!! Hans Verbeke (OG Liar)

BUST!

So, a couple of weeks ago I told Dossche I would write a testimonial for this Dead Stop goodbye thing. Last Friday he had to come up to me to remind me. Man, I totally forgot. Blame it on stress. Anyway. Dossche's companion Larry already tried to knock one of my friends' ears off a while ago, so for the sake of mine I'm glad I didn't forget twice. I don't know what the bigger problem is though. Larry punching ears or the issue I'm dealing with at the moment. The problem is, how the hell are you supposed to write about Dead Stop without being the next in line to say they were the best thing that could happen to European hardcore in a long, long time? That they always delivered, from garageboxes with moshing rastafaris to the numerous insane sold-out Lintfabriek shows to any place in the world? That they were the one band that put European hardcore back on the map? That people with a clue didn't need to wait until their tenth show to know they were one of the best bands ever, ever, EVER? That each of their records is an instant classic? That without them one of the best labels around wouldn't be there? That... This is getting boring. The thing is, you can't. You just can't leave any of that stereotypical halleluja bullshit out of a writing meant for a fanzine that has to give those dudes their final praise. As much as I tried to come up with something original and as dull as this may sound, they just were the best band in ages. No matter what some fuckers might say. Go back a couple of years and think what hardcore over here would be like if it wasn't for Dead Stop. Think about that and think what you are going to miss tomorrow. Things will never be the same again. Hail Dead Stop.

Rob B. (Abusive Action)

In the footsteps of ABBA & the Bad Brains...

When I was just a kid I forced my parents to buy the ever sublime ABBA double-lp "The Singles". I liked their melodies, harmonies, crazy twists in their songs. I think ABBA is still underestimated and too many people think of it as "eurosong-pop", "kitsch" or "a disco thing". To me they where like the European Beach Boys or something. Anyway I guess the ABBA-experience explains why in the 80's & 90's i became an indie-kid and my main likes where indie-bands who had a twisted pop-feel (Pavement, Pixies, Triffids, Yo La Tengo, Chills ...) besides some sidesteps to electronic new-wave & Australian garage. So I'm no hardcore fanatic or conaisseur at all, and maybe I better shut up when it comes to Dead Stop.

Still I wanna say this: When HC came into my teenage life it always was a defining moment for my future. First there was Black Flag's Damaged which I borrowed in 1985 from the Antwerp Public Library and taped and played it like crazy till it became a vital part of my system. Second was the 1989 gig from the Bad Brains at the Futurama-festival. This remains to this day the best live gig I've ever seen. It's impossible to describe what I felt, but being a teenager I had never felt such excitement and uncatchable vibe. The first thing HR did when he walked on stage was diving into a crazy crowd (1989 the year stagediving became big in Belgium, Urban Dance Squad opening Neurorock, Faith No More in Democrazy ... i don't like stagediving very much but sometimes if you're sucked into the ambiance you can do no other).

This long introduction just to say that for me a live Dead Stop *show* in the Lintfabriek is the closest thing that comes to this Bad Brains gig. I felt a similar energy, emotion, vibe. I'm sure that on their last ever gig in de Lintfabriek "dat de zaal zot gaat komen", "er zotte moves zullen zijn", that the Dead Stop Hooligans will sing all songs from beginning to end ... all this terminology to describe something that's for real & energetic. After Dead Stop's final gig this energy will dissolve and all of us will carry a part of it for the rest of our lives cuz We Are Dead Stop!

Croki

On the road

There are a lot of stories and most of them are well known, but I just want to spotlight some habits and stereotypes during a road trip in a few lines. First of all there was the van. We had to pick it up somewhere and then drive it 5 kilometres to Gert's place. Those were Lino's 5 minutes of driving… Then he disappeared in the back playing his Gameboy like a five year old child until we reached the venue ...

While loading the van, Coorde gave instructions from the side while Larry and Gert arranged everything. That was the time for me to secretly sneak my bag to the front of the van so I could hide the sixpack for Gert. When ready, Michiel took the wheel, shuffled the Ipod and we were off. Lookin' out for the first stop I took a little nap in the back or on a shoulder that I could find. Sometimes disturbed by Lino's noises when he just reached the next level on his Gameboy. The gas stations, always the coolest places! Looking for food or snacks you can't find in Belgium, attacking the Panini WC Football stickers or just drinkin two fresh cécemels and a coke. After the break there was usually a change of drivers. I can remember a funny moment when Coorde didn't want to change. He was wide awake and ready to drive us all the way and even back if he could, but apparently Larry had already woken up too and was also heading for the wheel… A hilarious discussion was the result. When arriving at the venue nothing could go wrong anymore. Lino hits the stage just in time, they play the show, everyone goes nuts and the job's done!

Last but not least. I don't want to withhold you the Ipod story. After a quick stop in a gas station Lino took place in the front next to the Ipod. While shuffling for a song Lino prepared a drink for himself and me, all of a sudden there's a little bump in the road and the bottle of rhum falls over Gert's (aka "don't drink in my van!") Ipod, ofcourse he wasn't pleased with that!

Toon (St-Niklaas Wolfpack)

They made me a man

I remember me being 14 years old, going to Funtime fest without knowing what was going to happen. I went there with Pieter "Vanny" Van Oost as my tutor, the same guy who lent me the Dead Stop 7" which blew me away: "This is fucking amazing, is there more shit like this Vanny?". I also remember me being a very nervous child (yes a child) while we were approaching the venue. I was asking questions all the time: "Is there a cloakroom? Are there any toilets? Can we buy something to drink?". No, I really wasn't totally chill and relaxed, which didn't get any better when I entered the venue. All those big, smelly, fat dudes in black: it was really scary. The show started and I saw a lot of bands (I can't remember all of them), but the band who learnt me how you should play the drums as a man, blew me totally away. I did my first stage dive ever ("Jojo, you should learn to dive properly") and I sang along for the first time: "LICK YOUR GUTS!!!! LICK YOUR GUTS!!!!" ("Jojo, it's hate your guts!!"). After this show (I came home at 2 o'clock with a worried mom waiting for me) I told my mom about Dead Stop and let her listen to the 7", she remained totally calm while listening, while I felt the vibes from the show all over again. I noticed that this band, Dead Stop, is something special, it's more than Linkin Park, more than Papa Roach, this band is life itself!!! The next time I saw them was in Sinnekloas, my beloved city with the biggest square in Europe, itself. Again it was Vanny who told me there would be a hardcore show with Dead Stop, and this time it was nearby!!! So I asked my mom if I could go. Finally it took me 5 days and several dishwashing shifts to convince her, but it was fucking worth it. I saw a lot of faces who where just the same as on Funtime fest, they were all laughing and making jokes. It seemed like this was one big family! Dead Stop's show itself blew me away, and after that show they did it again and again and again... Through Dead Stop I discovered all those older bands like SSD, DYS, Negative Approach, etc... And last but not least; Dead Stop learnt me how to use those drumsticks the hard way! When I was 15 years old I hit my skins almost daily along with the Dead Stop 7" just for gaining speed. Yeah it will sound like a motherfucking cliché but without Dead Stop my life would be as boring as all those fuckers who know nothing about the feeling you have when you see a Dead Stop show.

Joris (Turn The Screw)

Dead Stop/The Deal – Saddam is a biatch UK tour, 2003

Dead Stop Crew:

Gert, Lino, Kris, Michiel, Alex (Michiel's brother from anotha mother), Tuffin, Larry, Erik, Ries' photograph (mapped on a piece of cardboard, always kept on the van's wind shield) and Sophia.

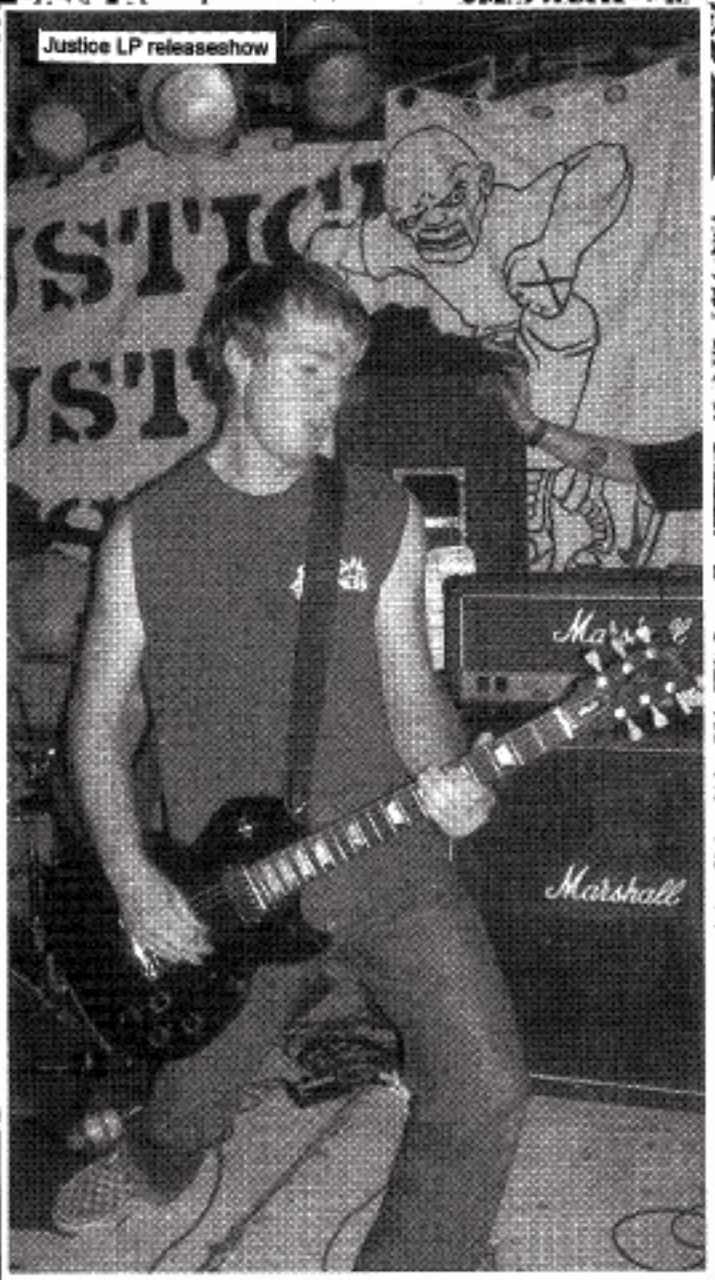
Some facts:

* On the ferry boat to the UK, Larry locates a funky looking dude, poses next to him and Gert takes precious pictures of them two!
* Road trip to Canterbury is easy going!
* First show takes place. The response to Dead Stop is not too great. UK kids did not understand back then what Dead Stop was!
* Later, at Hannah's place, some of us get possessed by the "wear pans on your heads and knock on 'em with wooden spatulas' fairies. Catching some sleep takes a while. Not to mention that the whole living room and kitchen was packed with body bags. In Arm's Reach are also there.
* In the morning football takes place on the parking lot, ofoourse.
* On the way to Worcester aka Wosesta, Breakdown's "Blacklisted" is on the stereo. Stomping begins. The whole van is moshing. Larry and Coorde, our brave drivers, at times carry up to seven people on their shoulders, and still manage to steer.
* Burger King pit stop. Lino keeps a Fanta pot in which, later in the van, exposes his pecker to, and pees. All for a cause. So he could later throw it to the constantly overtaking The Deal van, in an attempt to slow them down! The piss is thrown, the cause is not served. The Deal overtake us, again.
* I dont remember the Worcester show... Hmm...
* What I do recall is the night of that show we crashed at a guy's place who lived on Edge Street!
* At the very same location, Larry, Tuffin and you name it, strip Lino naked. Lino is violated, yet the smirk never leaves his face! Male wrestling is pretty kinky!
* Next stop Manchester. Satan's Hollow. Nice venue, yet NOT for a hardcore show. Lino is drunk long before the doors even open!
* While walking around in the city before the show begins a couple of limos stuffed with glittery prom queens stop us, requesting a kiss or two from the hunks amongst us! Erik Tilburg and Jurgen are the lucky two to collect them!
* The show is fine, but no action takes place.
* Crashing at Mario's place that night, means Mario Kart entertainment, food, and for our bad luck, sore throats and becoming sick. Humidity and no good ventilation gives us the flu.
* Buying the same Skrewdriver records, vintage posters/magazines and chilling downtown on the same day comes as kind of a relief though!
* Driving to Sheffield, Breakdown are on again. Stomping in the van gets harder and harder. Suddenly smoke from the engine backfires into the van. We pull over and start running in the fields in panic. When engine cools down, we are ready to go again.
* Sheffield show is so far the best! Lots of action!
* Instead of sleeping over in Sheffield that night we decide to drive to London, so we'd crash at Troy and Tom's place, and wake up in the city to go shopping!
* Larry, the greatest hardcore driver of all times, bangs our van on a car while trying to leave the parking space.
* Alex takes over the wheel a bit before we reach Nottingham. Gear box, out of the blue, quits functioning. We smell the fume again. Pull over and call Ford Assistance! Their task, since fixing the van on the spot is impossible, is to take us to the nearest Hotel there is. A Hilton 5 star hotel.
* We are given 3 rooms between us to share. In one, Gert locates the Bible, goes on page 666 and leaves the Dead Stop mark!
* Early on in the next morning, waiting for news becomes irritating. Gloomy faces all around, Erik and I steal marker pens from the maids and change the attendants names on the conference boards outside the rooms.
* News has it that we need to split in two (since most really had to get to Holland / Belgium by Sunday night). Gert, Kris, Erik and I stay behind (we had to wait an extra day for the van to get repaired).
* Gert and his woman are spending endless hours arguing on the phone. We need earplugs at times! Gert is as sick as a dog!
* While Coorde and Gert take a nap, Erik and I use the gym facilities. Erik borrows Speedo shorts to wear from the Hotel!
* At supper we join the elite at the buffet-restaurant at the Hilton. Lobster is amongst the choices we can make.
* To kill more time and digest, we catch a cab to the nearest cinema (20 minutes away) and watch "Jackass", The movie.
* Next day, bad news arrives. The van is not yet fixed. Our only alternative is to fit as much as possible in a Ford Ka and come back to the UK later to pick up the van when it is fixed.
* Coorde and Gert are bummed out it all did not work out as planned. To cheer 'em up (the two remaining fools with them) we first make them take a group picture with us all and Atomic Kitten (Gert is the only one who refuses to jam in a booth with another 3 peeps. He would've probably vomitted on us, from squeezing), and second: we rearrange advertisment boards trying to slowly shove 'em in the toilets and block people from coming out, and steal toilet rolls from the ferry, and wrap' em around our heads pretending to be burn victims.
* We are finally home.

Sophia (the mad Greek)

Hardcore rules!

I waited almost 20 years for bands to start playing hardcore like Dead Stop does again. I was thrilled to work with



these guys and glad to see them go out at the top, without releasing a "Break It Up". Best of luck to everyone.

Felix Von Havoc (Havoc Records)

"BODIES!"

It is weird knowing that one of the best bands hardcore has had in a long time was actually a band that ripped, roared and screamed right under our noses, right here in Belgium. It is weird to think of how much of an impact these 4 dudes and their band have made and it is even weirder to think of how, after May 20th, Dead Stop will no longer be there - raging through their typical short and powerful set, with crowds going absolutely ballistic to songs like "My Life", "In Hell", "Done With You", "Walk The Line" and ofcourse "Dead Stop" as well as a bunch of carefully selected covers. I haven't seen a lot of things that can compare to those old Minor Threat, Bad Brains or Negative Approach live videos, but I'll be damned if seeing Dead Stop live isn't one of those things. To make things even better, I got to witness it first hand. Nothing can compare to that.

When I first heard of Coorde's plans for a new band I didn't really know what to think. Just like "hardcore is hardcore" (copyright Steven Tuffin), Coorde is Coorde and the dude is a phenomenon on his own so I was unsure of what would become of his wild plans for an early 80's styled hardcore band. When I heard he'd recruited Gertje "SSD shirt" Jacobs on drums, who (back then) was twice as arrogant as Bart The Flex in his most arrogant days and will always and forever be the dude that played a show with a huge X painted on his face at leper Fest '99, I got curious. Adding Michiel (the librarian) on guitar only fueled my curiousity even more since I knew that dude knew what was up even though I could never figure out whether he hated me, didn't like me or just was another showcase of Antwerp arrogance. The craziest move of all though was when Lino told me he was gonna sing for Dead Stop. Until then Lino was the dude who'd come into the record store I used to work at and cuddle me, call me "chubby" and who I'd go to Rocket From The Crypt shows with. And he was gonna sing? Weird.

Fast forward a few months and picture Coorde walking into said record store with a boombox on his shoulder and tape with the Dead Stop demo recordings in the cassette deck. I'd heard a shady rehearsal tape with some good riffs and no vocals prior to that, but that was it so I was curious to say the least. So Coorde puts the boombox on the counter, presses "play" (realizes he forgot to rewind, rewinds the tape and presses "play" again) and out come the first Dead Stop songs I'd ever heard. I was blown away right then and there. Their songs were short, furious and powerful outbursts of hardcore rage, the riffs were good and Lino's vocals sounded like John Brannon's (probably partly because Negative Approach was all he listened to for months). Excitement was in the air and I have vague memories of dudes moshing and diving to the sounds of this demo, in the store.

From that moment on, things started changing around here. Sure, most shows were still stale marathons of boredom - but at least there now was Dead Stop. A band I could relate to. Word about them snowballed and their shows got crazier as time progressed. From their very first shows where Lino still had the football move and "Take A Walk" was still referred to as "Fiesje", to the UK tour my old band did with them where Dead Stop stupified the UK with their raging hardcore, obnoxious attitude and loud antics (and Coorde's classic "Bomb" design shirt)... all leading up to the craziness of the "Done With You" release show in 2004. Total mayhem, Dead Stop Hooligans, bruises and sore throats. That show was unreal. Coming down from the high after that show, I realized that we were witnesses to something unique. As much as I'd already enjoyed them before that, that is when it really hit me. I saw a shitload of Dead Stop shows, moshed and sang along at most of them, sieg heiled during the Reagan Youth cover, yelled "Coooooordeuh" countless times, watched Larry demolish tons of kids while losing his mind during their set multiple times and I was fortunate enough to roadie for them a couple of times, including on their last US tour... but I still I feel like I haven't had enough yet. Because with a band this focused and adrenaline charged and so close to what hardcore ideally should be, who could ever have enough? Not me. Dead Stop - I love you.

Dead Stop Hooligan,

Bjorn Dossche (Rise & Fall)

Barcelona May 11th 2006

"Change the channel, change the station" is the chorus of a song I'm listening to right now. This song from the new Restless Youth LP is almost the perfect soundtrack to start writing a piece about a band that started a new wave of early 80's styled hardcore in Europe and pushed the hardcore scene back in the direction of simple creativity. Ofcourse there were a bunch of other bands around playing this style but in my opinion, apart from Voorhees, most of 'em were crappy and are still crappy as you read this. But if you look back at the evolution of punk, it's pretty clear that this music came from a certain history check, which you can take as far back as you like. But if I tell you that Black Flag started out because of a Television record Greg Ginn liked, then you must understand what I'm talking about. Punk rock is more than putting three chords in a row or throwing in a mosh part after every second chorus. It's about playing it with your heart. This is where Dead Stop were way ahead of the rest of the scene....

It was a hot summerday in my hometown Tilburg and Erik T. came by to tell me about a new band that was recording their demo down the street from my house. On the way to the "studio", which was actually a practice space and a minidisc recorder locked up in one room, Erik told me about that new band who had just named themselves Dead Stop. What I didn't know is that I was about to

meet the craziest frontman ever and a guitarplayer who really knew about riffage. At that time I already knew Coorde and Gert. What I heard that day was a relief to me. Finally a band to hook up with, who knew how to "play" hardcore with attitude and that was based on riffs. It was around the same time that Erik and me started a band called the Uncontrollable, a band that was all about riffage and a more punk attitude towards hardcore and all we needed to complete our line up was a singer. Now suddenly these guys turn up down my street with the singer we were probably searching for all along. Lino was, and still is, the secret weapon of this band. A regular guy who doesn't give a shit about a "hardcore scene" but exactly knew what this music needed, an energetic touch. Knowing only a few hardcore bands to rely on. It was beyond any imagination that this guy was right in front of me that day, singing "Pay To Cum" by the Bad Brains as if he'd never done anything else in his life!

It was only a week or two later when I put up a show for New Jersey's Tear It Up and I added Dead Stop to the bill so they'd have some sort of release party for their demo. They opened up the show and raised the bar so high for the rest of the night and probably for the next few years. They literally came into the room as the unannounced band, but they left the room as the band that would be next big thing.... and everybody knew it. But they had more to offer, and that's where we get back to the idea of simple creativity. It's now that new bands such as Restless Youth or a band like Annihilation Time are appreciated by a scene that would have hated them a few years back. Somehow I see that Dead Stop was the missing link between Negative Approach and the Stooges. It all made people look back in history in search for that real energy. The raw power of a punk band that could play a Sex Pistols song, not by copying, but by meaning it. And that's what Dead Stop did all along. People can call them a band that sounded like any other band from the early 80's but in my opinion that was because they played it like they were actually from the early 80's and not like a band from the 21st century!

Thank you very much,
Ries Doms (Powervice)

Black and blue

When I'm in the changing-room at the gym, at the public baths or somewhere else where I gotta show off my bare feet, people sometimes stare at one of my toes cause the nail of one toe happens to be blue and it looks kinda gross. A normal girl would probably go to a beauty shop to get that toenail professionally painted to cover the blue spot, but I wont do that, cause my blue nail happens to be a memory of a Dead Stop show.

This Swedish guy Eric had a schoolproject where he could chose to do pretty much whatever he wanted to, and he chose to put up a hardcoreshow which took place in Trollhättan on January 14th of this year. Bands who played were The Blinds, Castaway, The Cutting Edge, The Kinds That Kills and Dead Stop. Most Swedish kids love Dead Stop, so spirits had gone from normal to extremely high when Eric had dropped the news some weeks earlier: Dead Stop would play Sweden! Sure as a motherfucker I was too excited.

Trollhättan is like a four hours drive from my hometown, that's not a very long way to a show when living in Sweden. But for this show I was gonna drive Castaway and The Cutting Edge to Trollhättan too, who live in Lund which is two hours in the other direction... So the night before the show I took a bus to Clara and Emil who are this cute couple with lots of tattoos in Malmö which is like ten minutes away from Lund where I was gonna pick the bands up. So yeah I slept on Clara and Emils' couch, and left early next morning to go pick up the van in Lund.

We arrived to the venue pretty early, and me and some others went out for pizza. After some waiting the show finally started. Castaway played first, then The Cutting Edge. The Blinds were the third band, they were tight and played a Circle Jerks cover or two. The Kind That Kills were on next. Then, finally, it was Dead Stop's turn to hit the stage, I was really excited and I wasn't the only one.. Everybody was in high spirits, singing along to every song, circlepits, people diving all the time, going off... This was when my toenail got blue. Dead Stop played fast, tight and aggressive like usual, it was a great set. They closed with "Banned in DC", then Lino had to get off stage despite strong protests from the audience, cause he was sick. Total bummer...



Michiel, Lino, Jacobs, Erik.
Area 51, February 2004.

When I drove the van back home the following day, I kept thinking about Dead Stop. Last year I had serious plans of moving to Belgium, just to get away from Sweden and to be able to go to great Dead Stop shows every week. I was looking for a job in Belgium through some site run by like some department of the European Union, but I just found au pair-jobs and that's not really what I wanna do. I kept looking for a job or something but it just fizzled out, I started going to school in Sweden and time was just moving on, and suddenly I was driving this van from a great Dead Stop show, realizing I could have been to shows like this (or probably even better) a hundred times before but I missed it. At this time, the Dead Stop breakup wasn't really official, I think it was more like a rumour but I sort of understood it actually would happen in the nearest future, and it made me feel so low. I should just have hitch-hiked to Belgium without any money to get to some shows... I guess that's what they call "afterwisdom".

When I write this, I have two Dead Stop shows ahead of me: first one in Barcelona, and then the last one at Lintfabriek. Then Dead Stop is over. But at least I'm glad I got the see them SOME times, I mean I know this guy who never saw them. He loves their records but he's never seen them play. I'm so glad I'm not him.

And when I wanna remember Dead Stop and what their shows was like, I guess I will look at my blue toenail. I hope it will stay blue forever!

Signe (Sweatpants fanzine)

In demos

It had been several years since I had lost my interest in hardcore music, but when I first saw Dead Stop on one of their first shows, my interest grew back. They probably wouldn't have gotten my attention if Michiel wouldn't have been my brother and if all of the other members hadn't been good friends: I played with Gert in Teamspirit, Kris used to be on the road with my old band (OneXMore) on our Spanish tour in 1997 with Between The Lines

(Michiels band at that time). What amazed me about Dead Stop live was the amount of energy, which I loved from the start.

When the time was right for Dead Stop to record something, Michiel asked me if I wanted to help them out. At that time I did not have any recording equipment, but they knew a rental studio in Tilburg. On a sunny Saturday we drove to Holland and I remember we had a lot of difficulties finding the exact location of the studio. And it became even worse: at some point Gert made a u-turn, not seeing a car passing by, and we thought we were all going to die. Unharmed we made it to the studio which was nothing more than a rehearsal room with an 8-track mixing desk and a tape deck. I think I set up not more then four microphones of doubtful quality. I also had to improvise the mix because I only could listen to it through my headphones, which I luckily brought with me, registering it straight on a cassette. With no possibility to do overdubs or changing the levels, the recordings turned out to sound real good. I remember Michiel played the best Dead Stop killer solo ever in "Take A Walk". It was one of those sessions were everything fell in its right place.

At that time, Dead Stop was getting bigger and bigger and they decided to go to "De Studio" to re-record the demo to be put out as a 7", which in my opinion didn't sound nearly as good as the demo version they released.

By the time they wanted to record a first full length, I was setting up a home studio to do recordings for my own band, White Circle Crime Club and Michiel asked me if I wanted to help them out with their new album. On the 27th of December 2003 they came to do a demo session for "Done With You". I tried to "produce" (this is definitely exaggerated) them a little and suggested some "recording effects" on the vocals. At the end of the recording session they started jamming and their first steps in reggae were made. The funny thing is that Kris could play the bass to this very naturally and at that moment I realised that his future definitely lies in reggae...

A few days later, some of them came back to work on the /endtro they had in mind for the ending of the A-side of the LP. I was really pleased with the recordings, especially if I compared it to the recordings they made at "De Studio" for the 7". They still decided to go to Studio 195 for the final recordings. I wasn't very pleased with this decision, because I thought Patrick could never make it sound better (what was I thinking?), but everything was better than "De Studio". In the end it did sound better, but different: heavier (due to multiple guitar overdubs) and Lino's voice came out more aggressive. I always wanted to give it more of a Dischord sound, but Michiel had other ideas of how it should sound like, which Patrick did a very good job at.

On the 21st of April 2005 they came back to me because they wanted to record a demo for a new one-sided 12", which later became "Live For Nothing". Only Michiel and Gert turned up, so we first recorded guitar and drums live and later Michiel overdubbed the bass and also tried out some solos. They gave these demo recordings to Lino and Kris so they could prepare for the next session. This happened two months later, on the 30th of July.

Lino had really done a good job and had written the lyrics for almost all the songs. Also Michiel had not been sitting on his ass. The solo work was more refined and his overall playing style was sharp and fit. I think the live recording was done in less then 45 minutes. Great! Again they went to 195 for the final recordings. This time Patrick did a really good job. The sound of "Live For Nothing" was excellent and all the songs turned out a lot better. Also Gert had pushed his drumming to the limit. To be honest, I wasn't really convinced with the quality of the new songs when they recorded them at my place ("Walk The Line" not included, which is my all-time favourite Dead Stop song from the first note they played at my attic). When I heard the CDR with the songs recorded at 195, I was really amazed that they were that good. Another classic album was born.

Dead Stop was a great band. Relaxed to work with in the studio, fun to hang out with, great to play with. And most of all: perfect to stage dive to!

Krist Torfs (White Circle Crime Club)

Early eighties danger

I still remember the first time I heard Dead Stop, it was a rehearsal tape Gert played me in a car-stereo outside a club somewhere in Belgium. At the time I was not really impressed, but that would soon change when I witnessed them blowing away American Nightmare on a show in Brasschaat.

Since that show I saw Dead Stop countless times and every time they seemed to get better and more intense. Dead Stop had something special. I'm sure no band will ever catch the energy and danger the early eighties bands must have had in their time, but Dead Stop for sure gave us a taste of it. In 10 years kids will be playing their Dead Stop records wishing they'd been born 10 years earlier, just like we did with our old records at one point (and most probably still do), and I will be grateful that I was there when Dead Stop was around.

Jigs (Abusive Action)

Are these dudes closet Nazis?

When Dead Stop first started in 2002, I didn't know too much about older hardcore. I had some Dead Kennedys CD's, the Minor Threat discography and that Bad Brains CD on Victory, but other than that, I spent most of my time listening to the Good Life Records back catalog or whatever. That's what my friends were into, so that's what I checked out. Dead Stop is directly responsible for changing my mind and getting me into checking out hardcore's history, and leaving all those bad Obituary and Slayer rip offs behind me. Through Dead Stop I found out that 20 years ago bands like Negative Approach and Reagan Youth walked and played this earth, and that their music, up 'til today still makes an impact on 17 year olds. I know it's corny to talk about how a band changed your life, but Dead Stop somehow did. First of all, they were the band that really sucked me into hardcore, going to as many shows as possible, making a zine and what not. With Dead Stop around, it was like I (and I'm pretty sure I wasn't the only one) fed off the energy of this band, which translated into more initiative from my side, being it singing along, doing a zine, or putting up shows. Then I also owe it to Dead Stop that I started learning about the roots of hardcore and even punk, something that still consumes a lot of time in my life, and I wouldn't want it any other way. By learning more about punk and hardcore, I could give the music and the whole scehery surrounding it a lot more meaning for myself, and it changed, or better re-created, the way I look at music in general. And last, the time Dead Stop was around was a time where shows were great to go to. You would be looking forward to every time you saw them, and you were hardly ever disillusioned. Even if they played with Bane and nobody moved, you'd get a kick out of Lino going off, Michiel abusing his guitar, Gert pounding those skins like a suicidal maniac and Coorde being Coorde. Dead Stop shows were great times, thanks to the great people who were always there.

Some memories about Dead Stop:

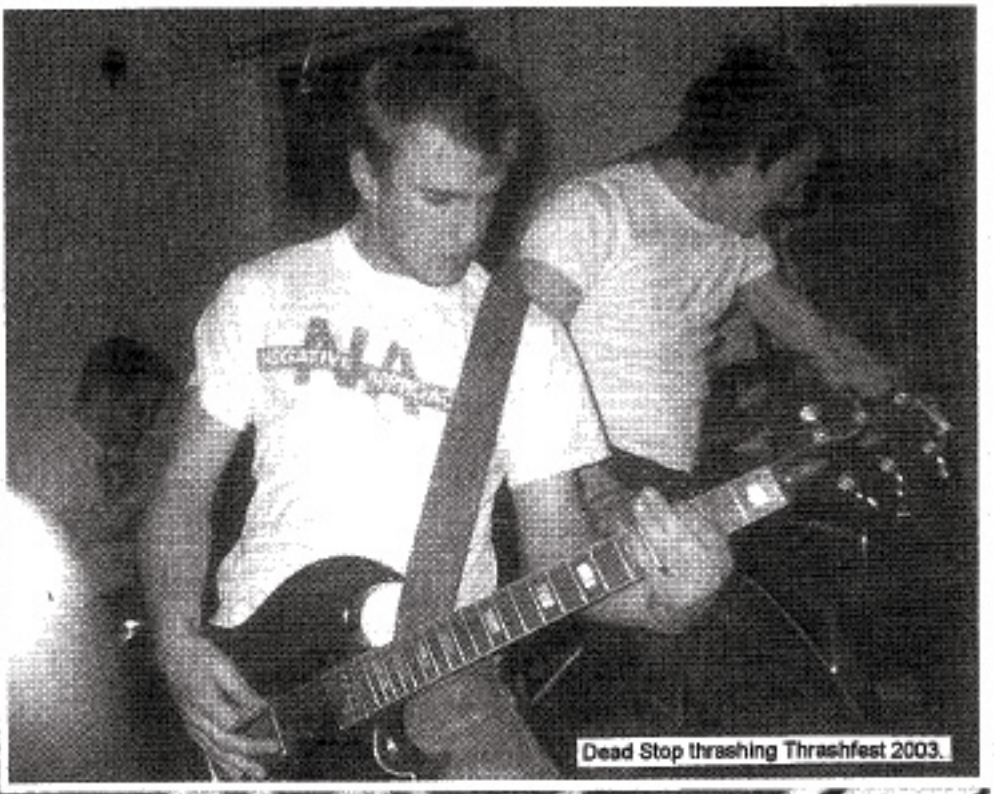
Dead Stop was talked about long before they played live or recorded a demo. They were going to play their first show at the Lintfabriek with Kill Your Idols, Reaching Forward and Reproach on april 19th, 2002, if I'm not mistaken. Needless to say I was curious and siked to check out the band everybody was talking about. I was supposed to take the train up to Kontich and then take a bus to the venue. But I forgot to switch trains in Antwerp, lost more than an hour and walked in when Dead Stop were playing their last songs, one being a Reagan Youth cover (or so I was told). I remember thinking 3 things:

1) Is that 'sieg heiling' thing ironical or are these dudes closet Nazis?
2) If Peter VanderLintfabriek is moshing for these dudes, what the hell did I miss?
3) I'm a retard for missing the rest of the show.

A little later the demo dropped. I handed over some money to Gert a week before I would travel to Burkina Faso to do some voluntary work there, and he would send me a tape asap. It arrived the day I left, so I put it somewhere in my backpack

and didn't play it until I was unpacking somewhere in West Africa. I put the tape in my walkman and from the first notes, over the 'not so good' solo in "Take A Walk" to the last tunes of "Theflex", it blew me away. So I first heard the Dead Stop demo in Burkina Faso, surrounded by poor black dudes and lions. The locals wanted a listen too, but they were more into my Public Enemy tapes than Dead Stop. Too bad for them. Maybe they deserve to starve to death.

Dead Stop would release a 7" somewhere in October or November of 2002, and there was going to be a release party for this. Every one with a clue knew this show was going to be a blast and that you had to be there if you knew what was up. Tons of talk and anticipation were spread around, weeks in advance. I was siked and I was definitely going to be there. Except... I had offered to help Finnish band Endstand to get some shows in Belgium and let them crash at my parents place during the same weekend. So when everybody was moshing at Dead Stop's release show, I was in Heist-Op-Den-Berg, watching End Of Ernie playing songs dedicated to nitwits who burn down McDonalds restaurants in defence of the animals. YAY!



Dead Stop thrashing Thrashfest 2003.

When Dead Stop played with Striking Distance at a show in Holland, sometime in 2003, they blew Striking Distance off the stage. This was the first time I actually saw a Belgian band blowing any US band off the stage. That really made an impact on me. Who cares about all those shitty US bands when you can go see Dead Stop every week?

The LP release show was coming up, in May of 2004. Hinkey and I figured it might be a good idea to be in Antwerp already the day before the actual show, so after a show in Mol, I think, we went over to Antwerp to crash at Spoiler's place. The plan was to get early at the Lintfabriek so that we could get our hands on one of those limited release party editions. The show started at 4 pm. I think we got up at 1 pm or something, due to watching 80's movies and listening to records 'til the early hours. It took Spoiler over an hour to get dressed and all, and Hinkey and I were getting nervous cause we really wanted to be there on time. But Spoiler assured us we weren't going to be late "because it's only a 30 minute bus ride away." In the end, Spoiler didn't know what bus we had to take. He didn't even know where to take bus so he did like Spoiler would do, and called Tombeur to come pick us up at his apartment. We even got lost in the area where Spoiler lived cause that dude didn't know how to get out of there. We arrived at 6 pm. Two hours late and no release party LP. Luckily Dead Stop played what I still consider as their best show ever. And I still love Spoiler.



One of the funniest Dead Stop shows ever was in Würselen, or something like that. Somewhere in Germany, Sometime in 2004 I think. It might have been 2005 as well, cause Toon was there and he's not been into hardcore very long. Anyway, Dead Stop played, Justice played and in between some German bands no one gave a fuck about. The Dead Stop hooligans were represented as always. After Justice some band had problems with the bass amp and no other band had a replacement amp at the show, so someone had to go out and find a new amp.



04/02/2006. Switzerland.

Man, it took so long before anything happened after that. People were really bored. I can remember everyone just standing there, nothing much to say to each other. All of a sudden the 'zotte sfeer' erupted out of nowhere. I started throwing paper at Sophia and things got out of hand from there. Everybody started making a mess, People started to do a 'Justice' and walked in during Black Friday and started battling each other, then everybody started to yell "COORDE! COORDE!" at Coorde who was doing merch. Seriously, even some Germans participated in that, without having a clue. A 'wortelworm' came out of that and a chain of 15 Belgian kids 'wortelwormed' their way into the actual hall where Black Friday was playing. Germans looked really weird at us. Some other stuff might have happened as well, but I forgot. Finally Dead Stop played and as always, it was a great time, mostly thanks to the Belgians. Like Hinkey's infamous shirt says: "wij heersen de pit".

Kinet (Frontline shows)



Lino meets J. Restless at JH Fluks, 2003.

"Do you need anything?"

When I was offered the chance to act as a roadie/driver for Dead Stop back in winter 2004, I jumped at the opportunity. This was to be their first U.S. tour and it was an honor to travel around with one of the few modern day hardcore bands that I enjoy. A few months prior, my friend Dave Byrd played for me Dead Stop's first 7" and I nearly hit the floor. Their intensity and raw sound instantly put them in my top 5 present day hardcore bands.

Several days in a mini-van with these Belgian dudes proved to be more than your average good time. Singing along to Motown classics to get pumped before they hit to stage to tear through a barrage of Negative Approach influenced hardcore gems was just one of the many highlights of the tour. Lino and I drunkenly stumbling out of a bar (more like being carried out) in St. Louis was yet another. The funniest experience, however, occurred on one of the many long drives.

While I was driving to God knows where, one of the guys offered my some potato chips. I replied, in typical American slang, "No thanks, I'm cool."

To which Lino replied, "So, Steven, are you saying that because we are eating potato chips that we are not cool?" After a few seconds of that uncomfortable silence that follows when you've made a faux pas, the whole band bursts out laughing hysterically. The joke was on me! I, too, laughed so hard that I nearly crashed the van.

Dead Stop is/was amazing band and an even more amazing group of guys. It's a shame to see them go. I'm happy, however, that I'll be at their last show on May 20, 2006.

Dead Stop, R.I.P. Steven McPherson (Nike Company)

I say what I say

My history with Dead Stop has been a long one and to say my life during the last four years was controlled by Dead Stop would be an understatement. Hardcore the way I like it doesn't pass by that often so I made sure I got every taste of it when it did. And it sure did with Dead Stop. There's not a single thing I don't like about them. I haven't seen a single record that could match "Done With You" or "Live For Nothing". Neither did I see a band that came close to Dead Stop's explosions on stage. Never did I meet dudes like Coorde, Michiel, Lino & Jacobs.

Coorde

I think I've spent more time in my life observing and talking about Coorde or wondering what's going on in his mind than I spent sleeping & eating. Still to this day Coorde is a mystery to me.

One of the funny things about Coorde is that the poor fella never knew what was going on. It really didn't matter what happened, someone always "forgot" to tell Coorde. Band rehearsals, recordings, shows, tours,... he always had to find out from third parties. One thing that still stands out is when Dead Stop were doing demo sessions for their "Done With You" record. Coorde started brainstorming and somehow the bright idea that these were going to be the definitive recordings for the actual "Done With You" full length popped up his head. So when everybody already knew that there was time booked at Delabie's 195 studio, Coorde was still spreading rumours that the first Dead Stop LP was already recorded. I don't know how long it took him to figure out that Dead Stop was going to record in an actual studio, but I remember his most valid argument for using these demo sessions was the fact that "Out Cold also recorded in a bathroom once". Oh man, those were funny times. Don't even get me started about the time when Coorde tried passing the Swiss border or when he tried to convince Jason Halal to pick us up at JFK for the first US tour (while we were flying into Washington, DC). Let's not even get into how he found out about the end of Dead Stop! Coorde is without a doubt one of the most hilarious dudes ever, wouldn't go to a war with him though.

Michiel

I don't know how well you know Michiel but he's one of the most relaxed dudes you could ever meet. From the moment I got to know him, I have never seen the dude angry, frustrated or losing his temper. I'm sure that if it wasn't for Michiel Dead Stop's conflicting characters would have abruptly ended the band way sooner. He never liked arguments, he aimed for the middle way. I would even go as far as to say that if Michiel wasn't hanging out with an alcoholic like Toon all the time, this guy would perfectly fit into society. All this

friendliness & being nice disappeared when Michiel got drunk and was having a word with Dave Byrd (someone please write a book about this dude) about Set To Explode's lyrics. Michiel didn't really like the lyrics and couldn't relate to them. While all of this happened I was gambling and making mad money. But I had to quit because the sight of Dave Byrd looking confused instead of angry because the friendliest guy he ever met was telling him his lyrics SUCKED, was priceless.

Jacobs

I can't recall the day I first met Jacobs, it must have been over 15 years ago. We had no place to stay, no food and were living on the streets. We were down for life. The notorious arrogance that Dead Stop was known for in the beginning can be solely blamed on him. He didn't think twice to tell people to "fuck off" or "get a clue". So here's one of my favourite stories about him.

If there was one guy that supported Dead Stop from day one, before he even heard the band or before they even played a show, it was Spoiler (I miss that dude). The relationship between Spoiler and Dead Stop was kinda blurry at the time. So when Spoiler decided, in all his enthusiasm, to do the very first Dead Stop interview ever Jacobs thought it was a good idea to put his arrogance right in Spoiler's face and make a fool out of Spoiler, Dead Stop and himself. Unless you were hanging out with Dead Stop all the time, the interview didn't make any sense at all. I don't know what an average dude must have thought of answers like "Didn't you invent that?", "Do you think you're interviewing Calibre?" or "We didn't struggle in shitty bands"; but I guess it must have been something in the vein of "What's the matter with these guys???" This was Dead Stop in all their arrogance: they didn't give a damn what anyone thought of them.

Years later, when Dead Stop actually had songs and was gaining popularity quickly and everybody had forgotten about the Push The Limit interview, the guys from Maximum Rock n' Roll decided to do a reprint! To this day, I don't have a single clue how this interview ended up in their hands or what made them decide to republish this interview. My everyday life was disturbed for days because I couldn't stop laughing when I'd read Jacobs stupid answers in MRR.



Lino

If you met Lino during the last four years he was probably talking about Dead Stop. That was not because you're into them or because you asked something about Dead Stop. No, it's simply because Lino likes to talk about Dead Stop. At one time, it got to the point were you couldn't wear a Dead Stop shirt while walking around in Ghent without getting harassed at a bakery or a frituur by someone that would tell an irrelevant fact about Dead Stop. It might be me but I don't really like it when a nitwit starts talking to me. As much as Lino liked to talk about Dead Stop, he kept Dead Stop a secret to some (I'm not getting into details here but at one point the people to keep Dead Stop a secret from were his parents). While we were in Liverpool Lino found out that one of his colleagues had told someone that wasn't supposed to know anything about Dead Stop's upcoming US tour. All hell broke loose. He made sure the colleague was fired straight away. He also wanted us to cancel the whole US tour that would start 2 days later and on top of this all Lino started to attack people, passengers, busses and shops in the streets of Liverpool. I still thank Ryanair once a year for flying me there and letting me experience all this first hand.

All of this probably doesn't make much sense to you, you probably had to be there and have a weird sense of humour but those four dudes never cease to amaze me.

Dead Stop Hooligan, Larry

"I don't care what you say/'cause I'll do it my own way/I don't care what you do/'cause your life means nothing to me."

Dead Stop was a unique band. Instead of just making a trip down memory lane, paying tribute to long forgotten heroes, they fueled a whole new fire in the European hardcore scene. Rather than refreshing people's memory (or forcing some to start doing their homework!), they reanimated a scene that had nearly flatlined. Dead Stop came, plugged in and conquered. They campaigned against the ruling mediocrity in hardcore and in doing so they became the status quo for Europe: pretty soon people wanted to sound, look and act like them.

The first time I experienced Dead Stop live, I fell in love right away: the music showed why the early 1980's is a crucial period in hardcore that is too often overlooked, and the fuck you-attitude was the perfect answer to a dominating jadedness. "Fuck all this bullshit", they seemed to say, this is what matters: fast, harsh music and angry lyrics; kids playing their guts out and a singer that carried on like a maniac on stage. I've been fortunate enough to see them countless times; in the early years when they were a 'new exciting band' up until now, labelled by some as 'the best thing that ever happened to Europe'. Dead Stop brought hardcore back to its core: raw, hard, fast and honest. No matter where, every show was a great experience. As soon as the guitar set in, it was impossible to hold still. The reaction they generated was amazing; never did I see so many people going absolutely crazy at the same time....'energetic' doesn't even remotely describe it. Anyone who has ever seen them knows what I mean. This band just simply blew you away. And isn't that what music is all about? Boosting energy, channelling aggression, running around in the pit, dancing, pushing people and be pushed in return. You lose yourself in the moment, you pound your fist in the air, scream and rip up your lungs in the process. If you ask me what I absolutely love about music in general, and hardcore in particular, than I say it's that exact thing. It makes me feel alive like nothing else, and Dead Stop has been the embodiment of that feeling.

"The hardest thing to do/I have to let it go/I gave it all I had/I gave it my best shot."

Dead Stop was a unique band. You can yawn at their music (but if you do, you're an idiot) or hate their attitude, but you cannot deny that this band has put a permanent mark on hardcore in Europe. Not with the push of a hand, but with the kick of a boot in your face and in your guts. For four years, Dead Stop has blown my mind and made my guts shrivel. And I thank them for it.

Miriam Cheerleader



Moers 2005





Mülheim 2002





Kamlah 2005





Four Years Of Living For Something (Day In Day Out)!!!

Now that Dead Stop's almost gone and all is almost said and done I'd like to talk about a specific quality of Dead Stop. I'm pretty sure no one else has talked about this before so I guess I got a scoop. As most people realize Dead Stop never was your typical hardcore band. Dead Stop wasn't about making compromises, Dead Stop wasn't about kissing asses, Dead Stop wasn't about politics...and Dead Stop wasn't about organization. It's common knowledge that Coorde isn't much of a manager, but let me tell you all, the other three members ain't no Bill Gates either (at least not when it comes down to what needs to be done with a band). Fucking hell, it could very well be that Dead Stop is the most disorganized band in hardcore ever. And that, as strange as it may sound, could very well be one of the reasons why Dead Stop has become one of the greatest bands ever. Let me clarify myself.



Caught in a rage, Boston 2005.

From the first rehearsal on it was pretty clear that the chemistry in the band was right, and that Dead Stop wasn't just gonna be a hardcore band, but THE hardcore band. All four the dudes had certain complementary qualities and in the end no one would have had the role he had without the other, but there was something lacking...a certain degree of organization once the band really hit it off. Due to the fact that Dead Stop never cared much about success, kissing asses or scene politics and had support from a bunch of people since day one they never bothered much to do anything they didn't feel was right in order to reach more people. The band was good enough anyway, there was no need to reach out to people... People who needed a band like Dead Stop in their life would find out one way or another. These are the roots of Dead Stop's disorganization skills that would be present for the rest of their "career".

When thinking back about the first year of Dead Stop's existence not too many crazy things can be said, they put out a demo and an EP and did a small tour of Greece, that's about it. Now, I can tell you stories about all three of these major "year one" Dead Stop facts, regarding each member, showing their disability to do something the way it should have been done. Here they are, telegram style: 1/ I got a Dead Stop demo from Michiel that wasn't numbered. When asking him later on if all demos were numbered he was positive that they were. I had two copies, both official, both not numbered. 2/ Dead Stop was about to tour in Greece, people that felt like joining them on tour all could sign up their name and a plane ticket was booked. This "ad" was posted on the Sober Mind message board by Gert, had 1426 views and people Dead Stop didn't even know joined them on tour. 3/ When Coorde was in charge of doing the lay-out for the MCD version of their 7" he obviously also was in charge of choosing the right pictures for the insert. Now you don't have to pick the MCD out of your CD rack, I'll tell you what pics can be found back. From the left to the right we have: a picture of Gert holding a cigarette (dude's straight edge and going for the good ol' "I smoke" joke), next is a picture of Lino in front of an arcade game holding a fake gun and wearing a back pack, the third picture we have is a live picture of Michiel (also doing the "I smoke" joke) with Coorde in the background and nothing spectacular is happening at all. No movement, no crowd, no nothing. The last picture that's on the insert is by far my favorite, what we see here are four dudes sitting behind a table and who do we recognize on the pic? Coorde, Lino and for some reason Erik Tilburg and Steven Tuffin are replacing Michiel and Gert in this band picture. If you reread what I've just written I totally understand, 'cause you are probably wondering what the hell the connection could be between those totally different pictures. In all honesty, I don't know, but I can tell you this: Dead Stop doesn't know either. And you know what? They don't care. Dead Stop had put Coorde in charge of the lay-out and that's what you get when you do that. Coorde is Coorde like hardcore is hardcore...just unexplainable. 4/ For some reason Lino decided that the thanks list on the second press of the EP had to be updated and that some people had to be deleted while others had to be added. Seriously, we are talking about the year 2003 here, at that point in time the Dead Stop members all have the respectable hardcore age of 24, and how do they "run" their band? Like Vinnie Stigma.

Later on, once Complete Control Records got started Dead Stop got a bit more organized when it came down to putting out their own releases and touring, but other than that not much had changed. When Dead Stop was about to play a show anywhere it could very well happen that Lino had to work, didn't know about the show or only made it there just in time to get out of his car onto the stage while the intro to the first song was already being played. Also, not rarely Dead Stop members would all drive separately to a certain show they had to play, not because they had beef, or that each car was fully loaded with stoked hardcore dudes. This just happened because no one really bothered to call the others to hear what was up and figured it would be easier to drive alone than to pick up a phone and meet up along the way somewhere. I also remember driving to a show in Mannheim and on the Belgian highway an argument about which way was the shortest arose. One way was a six hour drive, the other way a ten hour drive. No one bothered to check on the map, one road was chosen and that was it. Eventually we ended up on the right autobahn, but if that wouldn't have been the case no one would have given a fuck, no one would have cared. After all we're talking about Dead Stop, that's what a band like Dead Stop did. Going with the flow, doing their own thing and, rather by accident, setting an example about how things in hardcore can be done, with a certain "fuck you" and punk attitude towards the kids, other bands and promoters. Some people called Dead Stop arrogant, I call them punk. Gert getting in the face of some drummer dude in Friesland because the dude was pissed that Gert had trashed his kit? Punk! Lino calling out all ten English attendants at their first Manchester show for having a shitty scene? Punk! Coorde being held gun point at the US border? Punk!

What I'm getting to is this: no matter how disorganized and punk (not arrogant) Dead Stop has stayed throughout their entire existence you can't say that what they did affected their success and live shows. Once the first note on that stage was hit all the haters turned into lovers, all of Dead Stop's (and followers) non-conform behavior was forgiven and everyone that didn't know what the big deal about Dead Stop was knew at that moment. I am even pretty sure that everyone that has seen Dead Stop multiple times clearly remembers how he or she felt the first time that bomb dropped. When I think back about the first Dead Stop

rehearsal I ever saw, before they even played a show, it hit me like no band ever did before. At that moment I knew I was witnessing something almost as great as what must have been like seeing the Bad Brains live in '80.

Thinking about the fact that all this will be over in a few weeks, I know, as I have known all along, that hardcore never will be the same again. At least not to me. Another band like Dead Stop that will have the same impact on my life will never ever happen again and I'd like to thank Michiel, Gert, Coorde and Lino for all the great times, the great shows and everything else. I can't believe it's over.

Thanks for everything,

bartthefleX. (The Ghent Decontrol fanzine)

It's been Belgium again!

When I got into hardcore in the early 90's and slowly got to know about shows before they took place, instead of being siked about getting my hands on a flyer advertising any hardcore show at all and then realizing these bands already played a few days ago, the best place to go see a band was Belgium. And as if that wasn't enough the mid 90's saw the rise of Congress followed closely by Liar and then Kindred. For me it was the first time that bands from around the corner could match those from the States and Sweden, home of Refused and Abhinanda who were pretty big at the time. I remember shows with a headliner from the US that had one of the aforementioned Belgian bands who were supposed to support them but instead stole their show because all the kids left after "our band" played. But as everything that comes around, it goes around too, so Kindred broke up and Congress as well as Liar started out too good and couldn't live up to that with later records and so the US bands were lucky to get our full support again. Until 2002 that is.

In 1999 I had lost faith in the scene, rather than hardcore itself and didn't go to any shows at all and when I slowly got back into it in 2001 the first bands that rekindled my faith in the scene were Panic and Sworn In. And then it happened again. 2002 saw the release of a 7" by a very promising new band (at least they were new to me at the time) and just like those great bands from the mid 90's they were from Belgium and I had one more thing to love about that country. It didn't take long for kids to realize that once again we were dealing with something special here on the European mainland. Early on Dead Stop managed to gather a small but dedicated following. The Dead Stop Hooligans. Being there from the beginning to support them like crazy and making their shows the good times they were, they played a huge role in the rise of Dead Stop. It was the whole live experience - the music and the kids that already knew them going apeshit - that made the band so appealing to kids everywhere. Soon they could also count on a lot of kids from Germany to support them like hell. And this was not the end as we all know. They even pulled off 2 US tours which I think is unprecedented for a European band. Or if I'm wrong at least it hadn't been done in a long time. And by doing so they even exceeded the success of their predecessors from the 90's. Luckily for a lot of touring bands from overseas or any other place promoters were smarter this time and had Dead Stop play after them. Because it might just as well have happened again that people would have left before the set headliner because the actual headliner had already played.

Late in 2004 Meier '77 who does most of the booking at AK47 and is actually mostly into 77 punk as his name indicates was in the mood for some hardcore again and talked to Chris of Nothing To Hide who is now playing in Black Friday '29 (best German hardcore band around) as well and since we are good friends I finally got the possibility to get involved with putting up shows at that great old punk club here in Dusseldorf, Germany where I live. For our first show on February 12th 2005 we managed to have Dead Stop perform and it couldn't have been a better start for us. Right before them played Restless Youth who already were much appreciated by the kids and also Meier '77 who didn't know what to expect was quite siked. But then Dead Stop hit the stage and he was completely blown away. After he announced them all hell broke lose and he could hardly get off the stage. Later he was to say that he didn't see a response like that in ages and that he felt like a ball on a pool table when he got tossed around while trying to get out of the way of kids slamming, moshing, thrashing and singing along. Ever since he is so stoked on hardcore again that I do have his full support in booking hardcore bands to appear at AK47 and not in the least I owe that to Dead Stop. Thanks a lot Gert, Kris, Lino and Michiel.

GuidoxStepdown (AK47)



Chicago 2004.

No friends of mine!!!

I don't have much to say about Dead Stop, but the following is still fresh in my memory: one time I was at this show and outta the blue this fat dude comes up to me and starts yelling at me: "You are threatening my friends asshole!" I looked up and asked him: "Who the fuck are you friends?". "Dead Stop," was his reply. I raised an eyebrow and had to tell him: "You better have no friends than have Dead Stop as your friends...." I still stand by those words, for real.

John Rhoon

Life goes on... but not without a catch!

Like probably all of the contributors, I was asked by Larry to write a piece for this tribute fanzine. So I sat down and started writing down my memories of Dead Stop. This column turned out too fucking long, but it just took so many words to express what Dead Stop means to me. I don't know if this is gonna be interesting to anybody but myself and I don't care: here's how Dead Stop became one of my all-time favourite bands.



Early 2002 was a pretty shitty period in my life. I dumped my girlfriend at the time, dropped out of school and I didn't have a job. I still lived with my parents at the time, and they just had gotten an internet connection. So with a lot of time to kill and no money to spend, I discovered the internet, be it five years later than everybody else.

I somehow got in touch with Michiel, who I only knew as the guitar-player of Between The Lines and as The Regulator on the SoberMind Board. He worked in a school library so he was online all day and so was I... One day Michiel told me about a project band he was starting with Coorde (also ex-Between The Lines) and Gert (ex-Building). I knew Gert was a tight drummer and I knew Michiel could write good songs, so I was pretty curious for this new band.

The band was still without a singer, so they were trying out people and Spoiler even sent in a curriculum vitae in which he mentioned he moshed at every show so he would be a good frontman. Also Kevin Mindfist (later on to be known as Apetown and as Milkweed for a while) had tried out. A little later I heard they'd found a singer, and rumour had it that it wasn't 'a hardcore kid'. Michiel told me his name was Lino, he looked like Jello Biafra, and he only knew Bad Brains, Negative Approach, Dead Kennedys and Thumbs Down. Apparently they had covered "Tied Down" at band practice and Lino's voice sounded so hard they just stopped looking any further. Spoiler even sent me a private message in which he mentioned that "the fact they chose a Lagwagon-kid over a hardcore kid speaks for itself" or something to that extent...



Michiel told me the band was going to be called Dead Stop and they would start playing shows and record a demo pretty soon. Not much later I was talking to Gert at the Slapshot/Kill Your Idols show in Antwerp and he handed me a flyer for a show in Diest with Reproach and The Furious and he told me they were gonna play there and they were also gonna play what was announced as "the last ever European Kill Your Idols show".

I missed Dead Stop's first two shows, as I was in a band at the time and we had shows elsewhere, and even though I hadn't even heard their music yet, I was still bummed out about missing them.

If I remember correctly it was after those two shows that Dead Stop went into a studio in Tilburg (or Killburg as it is mentioned in the demo lay-out) to record six songs for their demo. Apparently Lino brought the recordings into the Pyrrhus record store, where Dossche used to work at the time and played the demo for the people hanging out there. Little later I heard all about how great the demo was, and how it really sounded like Negative Approach! I got even more bummed out for missing their first show, but I didn't realise how bummed I really should have been, until I first saw them.



First time I saw Dead Stop was when they played in Tilburg, Holland. It was their third show, and they played with The Uncontrollable and Tear It Up. The venue had huge windows and was located in a pretty crowded street. It was a weeknight so the show started early and people were walking by on their way home from work. They'd be looking through the windows, only metres away from the band. A pretty weird setup to say the least! Anyway, The Uncontrollable played a great show, including a Stooges cover, their demo should be "out soon on Zotte Sphere Records" as was announced some three years ago... I'm still waiting patiently! Next up was Dead Stop and you know I was stoked (only people on the Mullet-board were "siked" back then) to hear and see them for the first time... In fact I was expecting so much from this band, I started to fear they would never live up to my expectations. However as soon as Michiel hit the first chords to bust out what would be the short intro to the Dead Stop theme song, I knew this band was different than any other band. Gert was pounding the skins harder, faster, tighter and with more ferocity than ever, Coorde had a hard time

keeping up but still managed to do so, Michiel was playing in the way that he later on got known for: calm, focussed, flawless but with enough feeling to make his riffs sound as pissed off as he was when writing them. And Lino, what can I say about Lino except for the fact that he just lost his fucking mind?! Unlike most hardcore frontmen, he wasn't concerned about doing the right moves, wearing the right shirts and saying the right things. He would just go nuts, wear plain white shirts, say nothing between songs, and still be one of the greatest frontmen I ever saw, just because he doesn't care about being a great frontman or what people think of him. You could see the anger, the hate and the frustration would just rage through his body and direct itself into the microphone. Those are pure, honest and raw emotions and Lino can't help but portray these emotions on stage: it is a natural thing and it is real!

The people that know me will confirm I'm a pretty calm guy, I'm the silent type, I don't need to mosh hard and go nuts: I just want to watch a band, observe every little detail, and enjoy every aspect of it. Well, this was the first time that I got exposed to Dead Stop's raw and energetic liveshow and no matter how long I'd waited to see this, I still wasn't ready for it! I snapped and lost it: I was singing along and moshing to songs I never heard before. In fact, everyone was losing it, Hans Liar bruised my cheek when diving off the barstools, Bjorn hit me in the head with his elbow during a singalong, I think Dead Stop played "Tied Down" too... All this while the three-piece suit wearing people outside were looking through the windows with their jaws on the floor, puzzled about what was going on only meters away from them, at 8 PM on a weeknight.



Darryl Jennifer, Amsterdam.

After the show I picked up the demo that Coorde was selling out of a plastic Delhaize-bag. He told me they'd recorded a bunch of covers and randomly taped different covers on some of the demotapes. Mine had a cover of Reagan Youth's self-titled song so I was lucky!

After that show I went to every Dead Stop show I could. Basically almost no one else in my area liked them (or at least not as much as I did), so I would travel all over the country by myself or with my girlfriend, to see them play. We went to so many Dead Stop shows, it all kind of became one big blur. I can't remember the dates for most or even the chronological order, but I'll comment on some of the shows that stand out for me, not because they were the best or craziest Dead Stop shows, but because they were (and still are) special to me.

Like for example the show in Hobnob with American Nightmare, The Uncontrollable and The Deal. At this show the very first Dead Stop shirts were sold: the Absolution rip-off design in white print on a black shirt. Only 50 were made and almost all of them were sold at this show. Coorde was bummed ("kzen bummed out gast") 'cause Crucial Response was selling Absolution rip-off Death Or Glory shirts. Another one is the one at some bar in Hoogstraten right after their UK tour. Just a couple of weeks earlier, my band at the time did a couple of shows in the UK too, and knowing Dead Stop was going over a little later I figured I had to spread their name around a bit. So the day before we left, I met up with Phil Reflex who he handed me 2 boxes of Dead Stop EP's. I tried to sell them at every show. I couldn't understand why nobody checked it out. I sold two 7"s and traded the rest of them with local distros for crappy records I never listened to... Anyway, I knew Dead Stop had made tourshirts and I called Gert during the day to ask if they had any shirts left and to hold one for me. Gert told me they only sold three shirts in the UK and I was stunned. The times I went over to England before, they always had a great hardcore scene over there, so I couldn't understand why Dead Stop didn't catch on in the UK. Or Bar Napoleon in Antwerp where Dead Stop played with the Heartaches and for some reason half of the Heartaches got on stage during Dead Stop's set to sing backing vocals for one of the cover songs. I'm not too sure which song it was though. I don't think they played the Sex Pistols cover already back then... Another one that sticks out is the show near the seaside where Lino decided to speech and said that "arty farty bands like American Nightmare or The Hope Conspiracy had nothing to with hardcore" or something to that extent. Keep in mind that half the people attending the show were wearing shirts of said bands. Dead Stop's first show in Germany shocked a lot of Germans when Lino and the crowd sieg heiled during the chorus of the Reagan Youth-cover. Right after Dead Stop, Larry activated the fire-extinguisher and the entire room was filled with chemical powder. Not a lot of people were watching the next band... How about that show in De Melkweg with American Nightmare who were suddenly called Give Up The Ghost then? I went there with the Setup and Jan Vandenboer (whom I hate). This was also the first (and only?) show where the 'reichsadler'-shirts were sold: a shirt that just recently was sold for €50 on the internet... I also remember Flip and Stief hitting on a girl, who later turned out to be Coorde's girlfriend.

I was gonna write about more shows, but ofcourse it's impossible to comment on every great Dead Stop show or this column would fill up the entire zine. I haven't even touched the three record-release shows or countless other crazy Lintfabriek-shows, the last The Deal show where they opened with "Glue", the show in JH Integendeel where the mic broke and they just played without a microphone with everybody screaming the words... I haven't talked about the Dead Stop Hooligans or the Dead Stap, but I guess all those things will be covered by somebody else in this fanzine. But to try and round this up: basically what sums up Dead Stop for me – and this is why they will be one of my favourite bands of all time – is not only their music but also their attitude towards hardcore.

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In a time where hardcore bands want to play big shows and "make it", Dead Stop didn't care about this at all. Even though they were one of the only bands with the potential to do so! Every band dreams about playing the Resistance Tour (huge tour with huge bands) and they literally buy their way onto the tour. When Dead Stop got asked to play the Resistance Tour, they just turned it down. They were even hesistant to play with Madball because it was in a big venue. They liked to play small venues and they didn't care if they played for 10 or 100 people. Dead Stop was one of the best live bands I ever saw!

You have bands that feed off the crowd reaction, it gives them energy to go nuts on stage. But what sets Dead Stop apart from other bands, is that they don't even need crowd reaction: they feed off their own energy, anger and rage... They have enough honest and raw emotions to thrive on. That's what I like about their attitude: Gert, Michiel, Coorde & Lino care about hardcore and – it's almost impossible not to quote Raybeez here – they feel hardcore should stay in the underground or else it will lose its purity, rawness and its honesty...

Lino once said in an interview that he wanted Dead Stop to be remembered the way people remember Negative Approach. At the time I thought that was a pretty bold statement, but when I think of it now, I know the people that witnessed Dead Stop when they were around will remember Dead Stop that way. I know I will. God bless hardcore. God bless Dead Stop.

Klaas Voets

Best hardcore band from Europe?

The intention of this literary atrocity is not to be a eulogy, a bitter diatribe, nor a historical ass-kissing titled "The Life and Times of Dave Byrd and Dead Stop", but may be a combination of all three? The title of this article, a question, needs to be answered.

So I was little naïve about bands from Europe for the most part, there have been some good bands over the years but sometimes you never hear about them because of close mindedness and geography. I was on tour with Striking Distance over 3 years ago and we were mainly excited to be traveling in a foreign land and playing to new kids. We were playing with a lot of local bands and watching some of them, I would think to myself, "Man, if they were from Boston or DC, kids would be into them and they would get their due respect" and some of them were just plain awful. I mean, their heart was in the right place, but something just didn't click so they would only grab your attention for 15 minutes and then you would move on to the next town or country. At almost every show, kids were asking us if we were playing shows with Dead Stop and then we were told that they were on the last show of the tour in Roosendaal. Kids seemed to talk them up and said they were good but you never really know. I figured at least they'll probably do a couple of Negative Approach covers and that'll be a change for the better, given that a lot of bands were trying to be American Nightmare Part Deux. It's the last day of the tour and



Second show.
Note Lino's homemade shirt and Coorde... with hair!!!



When you're in Brooklyn.... 2004.

there are a lot of bands playing and Dead Stop are setting up and a slew of kids come inside and seem excited. Feedback and the first note rings out and people start losing their minds. The songs are powerful: check. Singer looks crazed: check. The band is really into it and tight: check. No gimmick or trendy appearance: check. First thoughts: Why in the FUCK didn't they play more shows with us? Why am I hearing of this band now? Why are they playing before us? Why am I not beating myself senseless to this? I was pissed. However, I had discovered a new band that made my blood boil and brain chemicals do weird things.

Fast forward to today and I'll leave you with this. I rarely travel outside of the DC area for shows anymore but did fly to Chicago to join the Dead Stop / 86 Mentality tour for a week, planned 2 vacations to Europe around Dead Stop record release shows, toured with them for over a week in the US, and tried to introduce their music to as many people as possible because I didn't want others who liked good hardcore/punk to miss out. Let's face it, the longevity of a punk/hardcore band is sometimes measured in months and the clock was ticking. Given I'm about to turn 35, I rarely get this excited about a band anymore unless it's one of my own.

Now that they're breaking up, I'm hoping there will be another band to fill the void. I firmly believe, with death comes life....an ending is a new beginning and all that spiritual crap that is woven in eastern philosophy. So if you're reading this and you're thinking about doing a band, get it fuckin started! I'm waiting and I'm not getting any younger.



Brugge. Summer 2004.

To answer the title of this article and a few of you know my opinion. How will you remember this band? Will they be forgotten by the general hardcore public in a few years? Do you consider yourself lucky you saw, listened, freaked-out to them? You fuckin' better. I'm sick and tired of hearing that they're the "best European hardcore band" of our time. Fuck. That. Shit.

Best hardcore band anywhere until May 20th, 2006.

Shitheads.

Dave Byrd (Set To Explode)

Anarchy in Athens (The squatters vs. clubbers row)

Dead Stop. Great band, great stories. My best memories of the band are probably about the time I flew out to Greece with them in January 2003 for what could be considered their first tour. Well, it wasn't really a tour as we stayed at Sophia's place every night. Nonetheless, it was an adventure with stories involving ex-K9 street dogs, suicidal cabdrivers, crackheads, wolves and a big man with an air pump up his ass (don't ask). It was also an adventure that could've had a very nasty ending...

Fourth day of the tour. Our hostess and tour booker Sophia received a phone call. A little problem had occurred; every squatter, punk and crust in Athens wants to kill Dead Stop. We have to come down to the squat immediately or they will find us and beat the shit out of us.

Only two days earlier, Dead Stop had played a show at this squat and everything seemed to be fine then. We figured it had to be some kind of joke, but by looking at Sophia's face we quickly realized that this was serious. Apparently, without us knowing, there was some kind of war going on between the 'club-scene' and the 'squat-scene'. If you were a band, you had to pick sides. You couldn't play in both scenes and if you did, you were in trouble.

So the punks at the squat had found out that Dead Stop was going to play a show at one of the clubs that night. To the squat-punks, this was a serious insult and they demanded that Dead Stop cancelled the gig. Of course, Dead Stop didn't feel much like cancelling. We needed the money for the gig and sell our shitty merch to break even. On the other hand, we didn't feel much like getting lynched by the entire Athens punk scene either.

Dead Stop had to make a decision.

Lino decided not to give a damn and him and Tuffin went downtown to get wasted. The rest of us went back to the squat. As we expected some hostility we took some tools with us that we hid under our jackets. On the way there we listened to N.A.'s "Ready to Fight", but in reality all of us were shitting our pants.

When we arrived at the squat, some guys at the door were already waiting for us. They looked pissed but didn't say anything. They let us in and brought us to the kitchen where (what seemed to be) the people in charge were waiting for us. Everybody sat down at this huge table. Since nobody at the squat spoke English, we let Sophia do the talking. This conversation went on for what felt like an hour. The sweet sounding Greek language and the fact that about ten intimidating dudes were standing all around us didn't really make us feel very comfortable.

At first, the punks didn't seem to be very reasonable, but after a while they seemed to understand our situation. The punks decided that Dead Stop could play the squat again instead of the club. Although we doubted that anybody would show up, Dead Stop agreed. Sophia really talked us out of an ass-kicking right then and there.

The show that night at the squat turned out to be one of the most memorable gigs in the history of the band. The place was sold out (about 400 people) and many seemed to have learned the words to the 7" they had bought just two days prior. Punks, skins and random freaks were trashing and stagediving throughout the set in what looked like a throwback to the early eighties. Dead Stop ended their set with a Sex Pistols cover that pushed the crowd into a frenzy. Athens was never going to forget this band, and we were never going to forget Athens.

Erik Tilburg

Leuven Wolfpack



Frontline. Spoiler in varsity jacket. 2003.

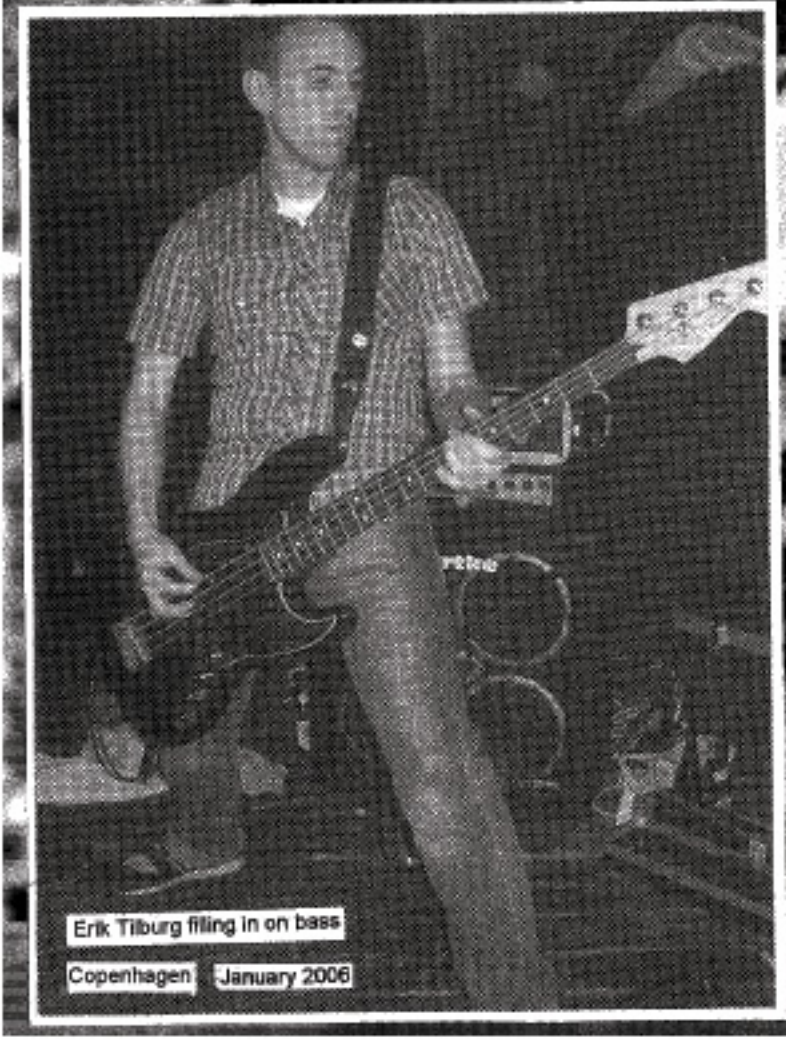
2000 was a good year. My interest in hardcore was renewed by bands like Last In Line, Tear It Up, Amdi Petersens Armé... hardcore like it was meant to be: no crucial fashion shows, no melodic youth crew rehash, no PC boredom... just fast, raw and aggressive music aka "real hardcore "! That same year I first saw Reproach. The band ripped shit up and the singer talked about how kids should listen to DRI and get into the pit and destroy shit instead of standing around like scarecrows. I became an instant fan.

Less than a year later I would quit my 9 to 5 job and start a fulltime hardcore reissue label with my friend Sapé. Reproach shows would always be total mayhem... moshing hard, barstools and fireworks in the pit, smashing chairs and mirrors, pissing off PC kids... good unclean fun! The guys from Dead Stop would go to the same hardcore shows as us and Reproach and that's basically how we met. Actually I had already met Kris a few years earlier at shows in the legendary venue "The Sorm" in Deurne, where we saw bands like Voorhees, Drop Dead, Asshole Parade, His Hero Is Gone etc. Those shows were always a fun mix of different styles... hardcore kids, crusties, Anwerp artschool weirdos... These shows would be the predecessors of the later cool mixed shows in St. Niklaas, Kontich etc.

I was introduced to Lino at the legendary Amdi Petersens Armé show in Utrecht. He'd always be the only drinker in the band so we pretty much related immediately! I think it was his first real hardcore show and what a insane show that was! The squat was a scene out of a Mad Max movie or something with nails in the walls and all over, people hanging from the ceiling with chains doing some sort of performance with boltcutters and shit... Amdi played a brutal set and Lino was the only one crazy enough to get into the pogopit with the scumpunks! Michiel and Gert were regulars at shows at the Lintfabriek and would buy from the distro and hang with us and talk about collecting old US hardcore. When they said they were rehearsing with a band in the vein of Antidote and Negative Approach we pretty much directly said we'd release it, without ever hearing them. It was a gamble but these guys were just breathing 80's hardcore so we felt like we couldn't go wrong.

Just about a year earlier me and my brother Sapé had started Reflex Records and we never really had the intention to release new bands. The guys from Dead Stop were of course keen on releasing their debut 7" on Reflex and thus pretty much making legends like Jerry's Kids, Negative Fx etc. their label mates. But that just didn't feel right, doing a new band on a reissue label, so we started Wolfpack records just to release the first Dead Stop 7".

In May 2002 I organized a show in Diest at a youthclub which was real cool about doing small hardcore/punk shows. I had a solid line up with a lot of promising new Belgian bands: The Furious and The Essentials (both from Brussels), 2 Steps Back and Reproach (from Overpelt) and a Dutch band called All Tensed Up who played crazy fast hardcore and covers of such bands as Necros and Battalion Of Saints. I decided to ask Dead Stop as well since they blew me away at their first show the week before ...they would fit in perfect! They were excited to play and ended up playing second to last because Lino had to work and was late. There wasn't a big crowd but everyone went apeshit and every band played an amazing set and pulled off sick covers. A show still remembered to this day because it was kind of the beginning of a new age of good Belgian hardcore shows... It was all so exciting and new! Oh and how can one forget the amazing falafel made by Jeroen! Best ever.



Erik Tilburg filling in on bass

Copenhagen January 2006

I also remember Dead Stop refusing to accept any money, they said I had done enough for them by putting them on the bill! When Coorde taped me the demo and let me listen to it in his car at some show I went straight to Sapé and told him we were gonna release the best Belgian hardcore 7" since "Clutch The Flag".

The band went on to record for the 7" in early August and came over to Sapé's house to hang out and sign some paperwork for Sabam or whatever. It was all real loose... No contracts, no special clauses, no business, just fun and hardcore! We ended up selling 1900 copies of the 7" and 500 of the CDEP with a minimum of promotion. The band exploded onto the local and international scene and everyone was talking about them from the US to Japan. A Belgian band... Who would have thought?

In classic hardcore tradition getting the 7" out on time for the already scheduled release show proved to be a difficult task. After listening to the testpress we discovered the pressing plant had fucked up the cut... The end of the song "Take A Walk" was cut short and the feedback at the end of the song continued on the next track. We had to resend the masters and do a second test press to be sure. No way the 7" would ever be finished for the release party in the Lintfabriek so after consulting the band we decided to do a limited edition pressing of 100 copies of the faulty testpress with a large hole and with copied labels glued over them. One of the labels was a take on the legendary Judge "Chung King"

incident and read "Wolfpack can suck it " although it wasn't our doing and the label should have actually read "Discopress can suck it". We thought that would still be too much of an honour for them.

The B side of the label was a tribute to Urban Waste and the sleeve itself a tribute to Poison Idea. I recall Gert driving straight from his job in Brussels to Leuven to pick up the 7"s in Herk De Stad. He was driving 180 on the E40 highway and we missed the exit because we weren't paying attention at all due to talking and having fun. The release party at the Lintfabriek was pretty chaotic too... I had the 7"s and the band was doing the numbered sleeve. But would we get the 2 together in time? Nope! Peter was kind enough to accept my plan to include the 7" together with the entrance price... I remember some girl asking me if she could have some of her money back because she didn't want the 7"! Hard to imagine! The 100 7"s were pretty much gone in a few hours and are now a desired object by collectors world wide. Stupid girl!

The actual 7" came a few months later with the usual delay and bad luck. The original artwork was destroyed by a natural disaster or something but that's someone elses story! When I heard they would play their last show in May it came as no surprise to me since from day one they said they would split up in their prime rather than go down the sad path of many great 80's bands. They would not change their style, image or make overproduced records on a big label and become clowns in the commercial hardcore circus, and that's something they should always be remembered for!

Thanks for the good times dudes!

Phil Vinyl (Reflex Records)

Banned in Friesland

Thanks to all the bands that played today except Dead Stop!

Henk De Vries (Friesland)

Rasta meets moustache!

I'm wearing a yellow shirt that has a footprint on the back. My neck hurts, I stink and I am getting a cold, standing outside of a venue somewhere in Belgium. People walk by with extremely red faces and raising heads to each other while smiling.

Fifteen minutes earlier there was a band playing with a guy on vocals who looked just like "the boss" and had a small moustache. I kinda got bored of his speeches in between every song. The drummer inspired by "the animal" was playing drums while standing up at the end of their set, so people could see his SSD shirt. When they had finished their set, he preferred laying down on the floor, he probably got tired of standing I guess. People were screaming the bassplayer's name all the time as if they were singing at a football game. After he'd had some sound problems he continued playing with his fingers. Everybody was stunned by his performance. The guitarist kinda looked like a surf dude and at one point he grabbed a bottle that was standing on top of his amp and started producing a totally awesome psychedelic sound that I had never heard before. There was also this chubby guy coming up on the stage who gave him a kiss on the mouth. People say he does pretty well with the ladies. I don't know what that was about though. Another member of the band was this guy who looked like an English football bloke. They say he is, as they call it, a "heerser". He kept the band moving and had smiled most of the time. He's my favourite band member. I thought that it was a mega cool show. Hallee.

Theo (Restless Youth)

Ronald was right!!!

The Rites and Cut The Shit were on our first European tour in 2004. Our driver Ronald kept telling me about this band Dead Stop we were going to be playing with in a few days and how they were the best band in hardcore.

People tend to say that a lot these days about bands who don't deserve it. So I kind of blew it off until we got to the Lintfabriek to play their record release show for the "Done With You" LP and thought "wow there sure are a lot of kids here". Ronald would keep telling me throughout the day that this was going to be amazing and I had to watch. It comes time for them to go on and there was such an explosion of energy from the crowd like I had never seen before, that the hair on my arms and neck stood up. Jesus Christ this band was good. We played with them a few more times on that tour and every time they blew me away with how amazing they played and how they were all cool dudes. No attitudes at all, just chill dudes playing sick ass hardcore.

A few months go by and I am at home in the US and wanting to start a record label. I think to myself that the Dead Stop 7" really needs to be released here in the US. So I get in touch with Coorde and ask if I can re-release it as it's been out of print for a while at this point. I expected to get blown off by this band, obviously they wouldn't want to work with me, but to my surprise they said yes! Again they had me unbelievably psyched about hardcore. That's two times now.

In 2005 they tell me about their next record release show at the Lintfabriek (which at this point I already think is the best club in Europe anyway) for the "Live For Nothing" LP. I think to myself "dude I can't miss this", so I get some cheap airfare and I'm off to Europe to see one of the best shows I've ever seen in my life. Again on their home turf they blew me away. This time I got to see Ronald mosh though so that made it even better. I think they think I'm nuts at this point for going all the way to Europe to see them. But Dave Byrd is there too and he's obviously more crazy than I am.

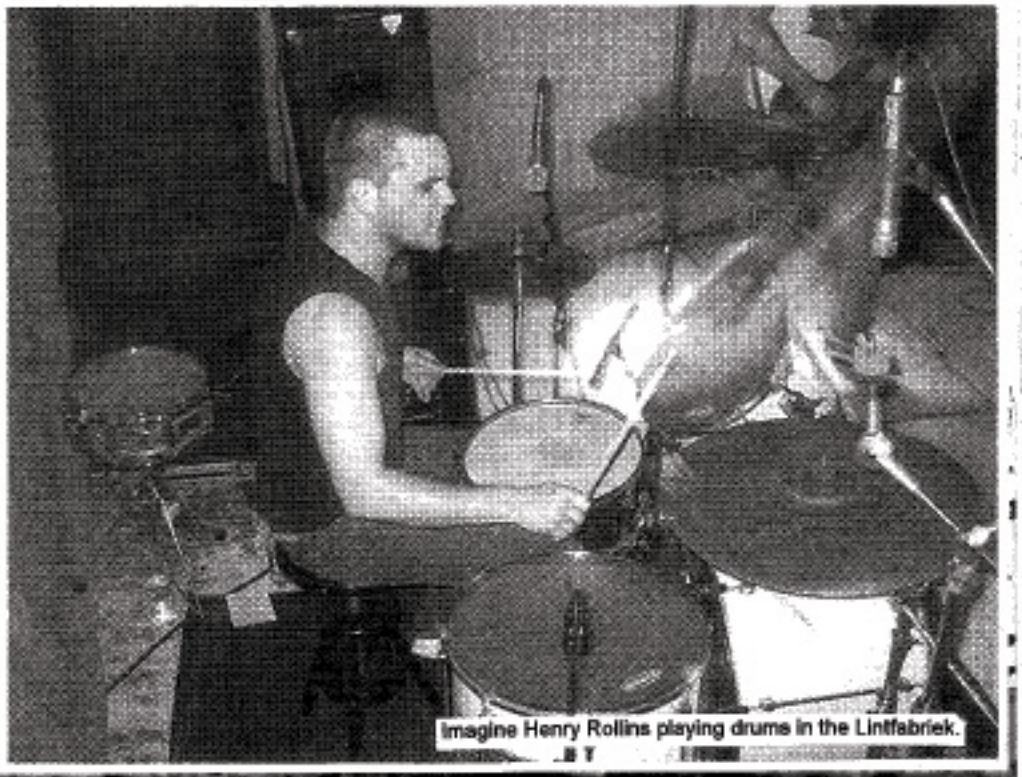
Then in November 2005 I follow them to Canada on their American tour. Michiel and Gert ride with me from Toronto to Montreal and we bond over all the metal on my



Dead Stop / Knife Fight passes through Stuttgart

Ipod. Seeing them 5 times on that tour while Gert played with a busted ankle and they were still amazing as usual. Dead Stop and Set To Explode 5 times in 10 days, can't beat that! It was on this tour that I found out they plan to be breaking up sometime in 2006 and I get real bummed out. So when they book their last few shows I figure I have to go back and see them again. In February I fly back to Europe for a weekend with Dead Stop and Justice in Germany and Switzerland. OK now I know these dudes think I'm crazy, but fuck it this is what hardcore is about to me.

Now it's one more time left to see them, May 20th again at the Lintfabriek. Again Dave Byrd will be there (probably bleeding). Again Ronald will mosh. Again I'll see Justice and The Flex and Bjorn all doing sick stage dives and singing every word while Larry is killing people in the pit. I know it's going to be a burn out for me, but I know also they are doing it at the right time. Going out on a high note like all the good bands do. These guys have integrity like that. I want to thank the four of them for making me so psyched about



Imagine Henry Rollins playing drums in the Lintfabriek.

hardcore the past two years and also for all the friends I've made through them. I love you guys in a non gay way. OK, maybe a little bit gay.

Ronald was right after all, Dead Stop is the best band in hardcore.

Dave Sausage (Six Feeth Under Records)

Yeah I hate a lot of things but watcha gonna do?

I'm not much of a puker. That is to say, I don't puke all too much. I think I puked about a total of 10 times in my entire life.

A while ago Dead Stop played in a gangster town up north in Holland. Constant echoes of gunshots and police sirens hollowed through the nasty streets as we hung out in front of the venue. About every five seconds sketchy dealers tried to convince us to purchase some of their goods and every five steps we took an even sketchier junkie popped up out of nowhere trying to sell us a bike. Dead Stop opened with the 86 Mentality intro and the party begun. Hefty skanking and mad behaviour all around. Their set was done and we worked our way outside. Suddenly I didn't feel all too fine and I thought I was going to faint so I sat myself down. And then my bowels rammed my insides up. There I was on the ground spewing while my friends had to beat the junkies off me with a stick as they were trying to steal my valuables. And I was like "Wow, I haven't puked in eight years!"

A couple of weeks ago Dead Stop played some show somewhere with Shredder. A lot of degenerates present who never heard of Dead Stop but went nuts anyway. There was a pretty aggressive atmosphere. So I'm having fun like a mallfucker. Until they finished their set, that is. I was talking to this girl when all of a sudden my body started malfunctioning and I just knew I had to get out of there. I spastically ran towards the exit but I felt like I wasn't going to make it. So instead I bust into the ladies room, jump onto a toilet and start farting really violently. I had no idea what my body was doing but I must've sat there for about twenty minutes. My head leaning against the door, trying to gain control. Eventually I succeeded to get a grip and all sweaty I walked out of the toilet running into a bunch of girls staring at me like I was a crippled, pregnant midget.

A week ago Dead Stop played a show with The Kids. Same thing, we party hard, the set's over and I'm feeling like "Oh shit, here we go again." So I get outside to get some air and go sit on a bench next to two dudes who are talking about The Kids. And just out of the blue a ball of barf gets hurled out of my throat. It was so sudden it scared these two kids and they were like "What the fuck?!" and "Are you alright, man?" So I'm saying "Yea, yea, sure" and before I even finish the sentence I blast out another portion of internal juice. Later that evening I saw an old drunk guy puke on the exact same spot. He must've thought it was cool to make the puddle even bigger.

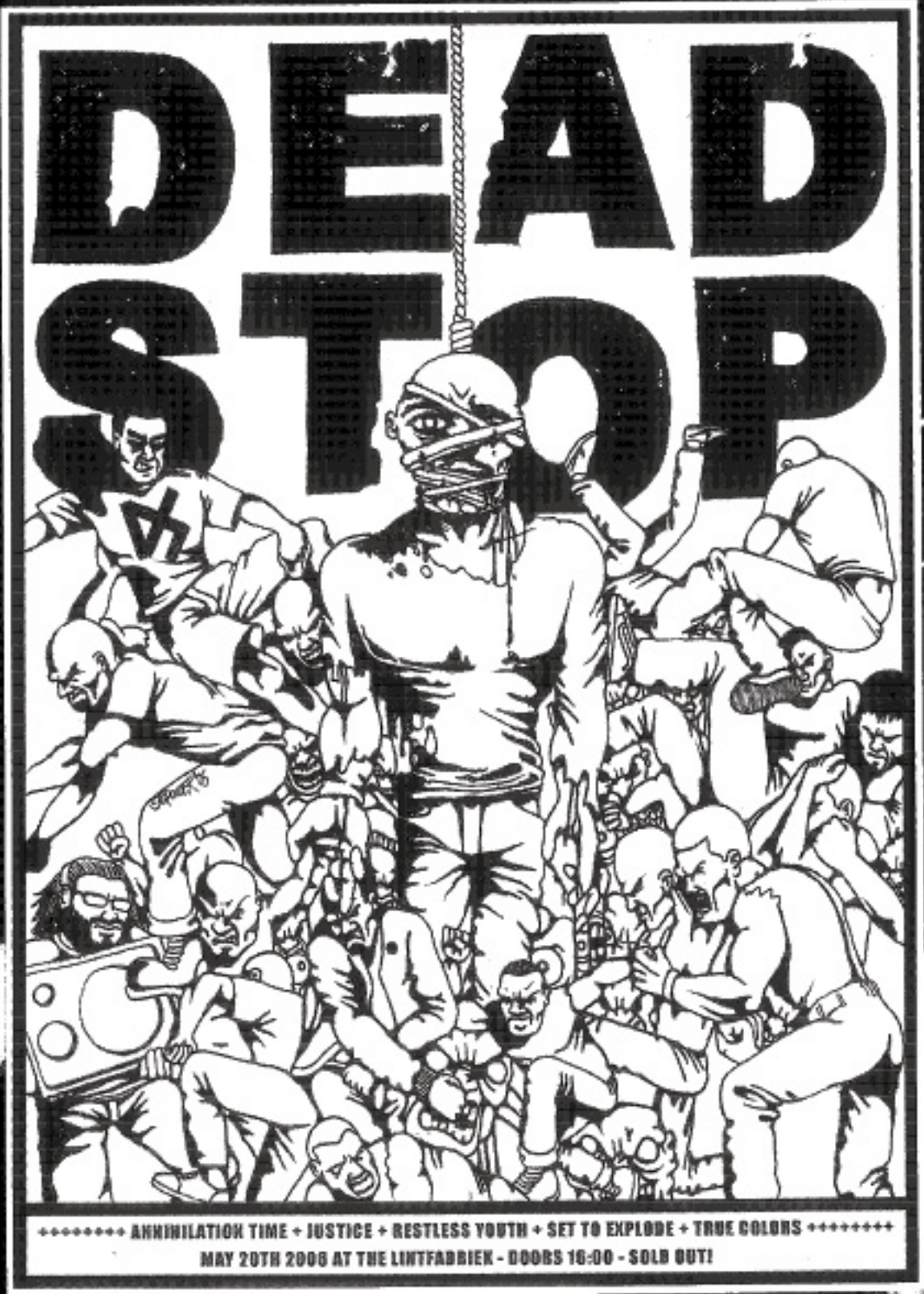
I'm not trying to make a point here. People puke all the time, and a lot more often too. I'm just saying I only had to deal with this phenomenon in cases of partying to Dead Stop. Anyway, there was a rumour I had "I love Lino" written across my genitals but actually it's a tattoo that says "I love Dead Stop". I'd include a picture but my penis is very small.

All barf-stories aside, Dead Stop marvelled me for the first time at the Lintfabriek, in October of 2002. The 7" release show. The little clue I had just started to emerge at that time. At the entrance I received a Dead Stop 7" with an entirely white cover. Other than that I purchased a Government Issue 7" and a YDI 7" from Phil Reflex, not knowing these bands at all. I also fished the third issue of Push The Limit fanzine out of a distro that evening. When Dead Stop took the stage I loved it from the first second. The singer looked like he had a bunch of lobsters in his underpants. I'm talking pissed off here. Really, really pissed off. Really. I later came to the conclusion he's actually the nicest guy ever. I had sent him an interview and got it back in no time. He signed it with "Best wishes, Lino." Since then I started putting "Best wishes" at the end of all my communications too. That Dead Stop 7" got hit by the needle innumerable times over here and it was some sort of a kick off for a whole lot of struggling and stressing to get to their shows. Anyhow, that whole "Fuck that progress, we regress" thing is just about genius. These guys were just like "Let's recycle some This Is Boston, Not LA riffs!" If that's not what Dead Stop is about, I've completely missed the point here. Once I saw a young kid come up to Lino after their set and I overheard them talk. And Lino was like "I don't know much about hardcore or punk. I don't know many bands actually, I just know Negative Approach." And this kid was like "Yeah, me too."

And honestly, what else do you need?

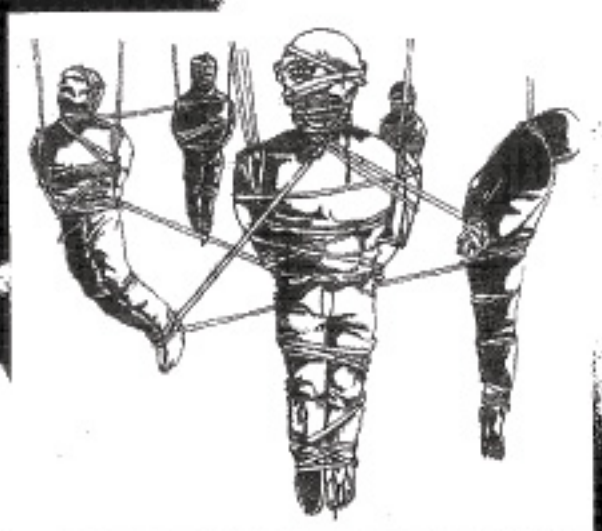


Michiel, Woodstock style at Parkhof.



This final piece of Dead Stop artwork is part of a series of three. The first piece depicted a few men tied up in ropes, hanging in the air, and tied together. It was a cynical portrait of the world in which we are all tied up, and by trying to get out of the ropes that tie us down, we end up choking our fellow man to death. I thought this fit well with the angry outlook of the band. Later on in their "career"I came up with a follow-up design where the main character had broken loose from his ropes, having killed everyone tied to him, and looked ready for vengeance. It showed what had happened to Dead Stop. While everyone thought they had seen their best moment, they came on even stronger, and wrote an ever better album. They had killed everyone in their way. For the final show, I could think of nothing else than the rope-man. Since he was now free, there was nothing else left but to hang himself with his own ropes. I wanted the final piece to have some drama to it, as the show and the aftermath probably will. But I also wanted it to show the party the show will be, hence the insane moshing and diving going on around him. I took some pictures from legendary Dead Stop shows as an example, and added some of their friends in there as well. For instance, note Tuffin doing his legendary monitor-mosh and Stief Positief on top of the stagedive mayhem. And that concludes the three-piece, the last Dead Stop art.

Spoiler

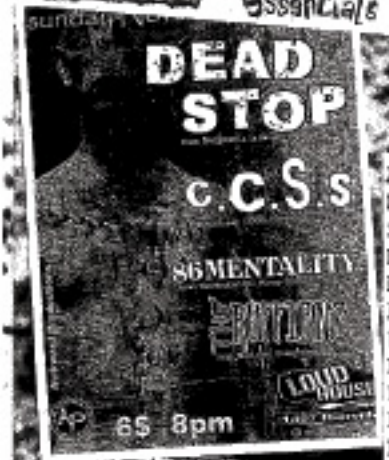














THE ULTIMATE DEAD STOP SHOWLIST

Dead Stop's records are golden but they're shit compared to their live performance. Nothing in this world has made the same impact on me as those four dudes standing on a stage and hundreds of kids losing their minds. And that's exactly what this is all about. If I want to experience hardcore in its full glory, I'm not gonna sit in my room and listen to a record. I want passion. I want energy. I want emotion. I want bloody noses and broken arms.

As a matter of fact, the impact that these shows made was so big that I wrote down this list off the top of my head and there's no doubt about the fact that there's not one show missing. If you think you were at a show that's not in the list, you're wrong because there was no such show. This list is complete.

Just looking at this list of shows they played brings back so many memories of days gone by. I don't even know where to start. Cramming 14 people into the Kangaroo van to drive from the UK to Holland. Doing an overnight drive to dive straight into the ocean in Daytona Beach. Driving to Light The Fuse 2004 with a caravan of 60 kids and 15 cars. Eating the worst food everywhere. Having the opportunity to tour with the best bands the US has to offer right now: 86 Mentality and Violent Minds (although right now the US are light years behind when it comes to hardcore). The last weekend of May 2004. Touring the UK without having a real plan except for bumming out the whole country. All the nonsense I had to make up to skip school or work. Hanging out with Foxy in Liverpool, Kalle in Stockholm or Matt Summers all over Europe. Going to the Lintfabriek with expectations set sky high and Dead Stop living up to them every time. Or simply hanging out, week in and week out, with all the kids who made up OUR scene.

It's clear that the last four years have been the best of my life, of any life.

2002 2002 2002

May 19th 2002 - Lintfabriek, Kontich, Belgium w/ Kill Your Idols, Reproach
May 25th 2002 - JH Tijl, Diest, Belgium w/ Reproach, The Furious, All Tensed Up, The Essentials
June 13th 2002 - The Schouw, Tilburg, Holland w/ Tear It Up, The Uncontrollable, Vitamin X
July 19th 2002 - SCII Cell, Den Haag, Holland w/ DS-13
August 4th 2002 - Hobnob, Brasschaat, Belgium w/ American Nightmare, The Uncontrollable, The Deal
August 15th 2002 - Kompas, St-Niklaas, Belgium w/ Congress, The Deal, Black Friday
August 17th 2002 - Ieper festival, Belgium w/ shitty bands
August 19th 2002 - Visioen, Brugge, Belgium w/ As Friends Rust
August 23rd 2002 - Stortebeker, Arnhem, Holland w/ No Denial, Know Your Enemy
September 1st 2002 - AZ, Mulheim, Germany w/ No Denial, Black Friday, Death Or Glory
November 10th 2002 - Lintfabriek, Kontich, Belgium w/ Running Like Thieves, Black Friday
November 27th 2002 - Frontline, Ghent, Belgium w/ In Arm's Reach
December 6th 2002 - Goudvishal, Arnhem, Holland w/ Bane
December 21st 2002 - 'T Skoffeltje, Heerenveen, Holland w/ No Denial
December 28th 2002 - The Steeple, Waregem, Belgium w/ Count Me Out, Kingpin

2003 2003 2003 2003

January 4th 2003 - JH Ultimatum, Diepenbeek, Belgium w/ Between The Lines

Greek tour with Out Cold

January 6th 2003 - Parartima, Patra, Greece w/ Out Cold
January 7th 2003 - Villa Amalias, Athens, Greece w/ Out Cold
January 8th 2003 - University, Thessaloniki, Greece w/ Out Cold
January 9th 2003 - Villa Amalias, Athens, Greece
January 15th 2003 - 013, Tilburg, Holland w/ Count Me Out
January 19th 2003 - Lintfabriek, Kontich, Belgium w/ Out Cold
February 22nd 2003 - Voom-Voom, Blankenberge, Belgium

UK tour with The Deal

February 28th 2003 - Scout Hut, Canterbury, UK w/ The Deal, In Arm's Reach, The Last Chance
March 1st 2003 - The Appletree, Worcester, UK w/ The Deal
March 2nd 2003 - Satan's Hollow, Manchester, UK w/ The Deal, In Arm's Reach, The Last Chance
March 3rd 2003 - The Grapes, Sheffield, UK w/ The Deal, The Last Chance
March 8th 2003 - Cahier, Hoogstraten, Belgium w/ Born From Pain
March 19th 2003 - Frontline, Ghent, Belgium w/ Rise & Fall, Dead Reckoning
March 29th 2003 - Podium, Hoogeveen, Holland w/ Reproach, Seein' Red
April 12th 2003 - Textielhuis, Kortrijk, Belgium w/ Reproach
April 27th 2003 - Music Temple, Roosendaal, Holland w/ Striking Distance
June 7th 2003 - JC Metro, Panningen, Holland w/ Know Your Enemy
June 24th 2003 - Kompas, St-Niklaas, Belgium w/ The Heartaches
July 31st 2003 - Lintfabriek, Kontich, Belgium w/ Holier Than Thou

Ulyss taken from the collections of Hinge, Kunst, Lorry, Stief & Thrills

August 17th 2003 - Ieper festival, Belgium
September 27th 2003 - Silo, Leuven, Belgium w/ The Heartaches
October 18th 2003 - Juz, Manheim, Germany

November 6th 2003 - Frontline, Ghent, Belgium w/ Das Oath
November 8th 2003 - Vismijn, Ostend, Belgium w/ Degradation, Reproach, The Shards
November 26th 2003 - Cercle de Chimie, Namur, Belgium w/ Sunpower

November 27th 2003 - Frontline, Ghent, Belgium w/ The Deal, Severance, AmenRa

December 2nd 2003 - Melkweg, Amsterdam, Holland w/ Give Up The Ghost
December 12th 2003 - JH Fluks, Baasrode, Belgium w/ Reproach, Justice, The Last Chance, Sunpower
December 21st 2003 - Parkhof, Alkmaar, Holland w/ Burial, Kriegstanz

2004 2004 2004

January 31st 2004 - Garage, Mol, Belgium w/ Justice, The Shards, The Fight
February 7th 2004 - Area 51, Eindhoven, Belgium w/ Justice, Downslide, Act Of Ignorance

February 14th 2004 - Lintfabriek, Kontich, Belgium w/ Rise & Fall, Justice, Reproach, The Shards, Between The Lines

February 19th 2004 - Bar Napoleone, Antwerp, Belgium w/ The Heartaches
February 21st 2004 - Metropool, Hengelo, Holland w/ Degradation, Justice, Black Friday, Icepick

March 28th 2004 - Podium, Hoogeveen, Holland w/ Mihoen
April 3rd 2004 - Kompas, St-Niklaas, Belgium w/ Reproach, Turn The Screw

April 7th 2004 - Integendeel, Nossegem, Belgium w/ Justice, Turn The Screw, The Setup, The Change
April 18th 2004 - Nijdrop, Opwijk, Belgium w/ DRI
April 21st 2004 - 013, Tilburg, Holland w/ Annihilation Time, Justice
April 25th 2004 - Music Sacrum, Arnhem, Holland w/ Madball, Downslide

European tour with Knife Fight

May 29th 2004 - Lintfabriek, Kontich, Belgium w/ Knife Fight, Cut The Shit, The Rites, Annihilation Time, Downslide
May 30th 2004 - Juz, Manheim, Germany w/ Knife Fight, Cut The Shit, The Rites, Annihilation Time, Black Friday, Zero Mentality
May 31st 2004 - Bar de l'etoile, Mandeure, France w/ Knife Fight
June 1st 2004 - Bunker, Bolzano, Italy w/ Knife Fight
June 2nd 2004 - OBW9, Stuttgart, Germany w/ Knife Fight, Cut The Shit, The Rites
June 3rd 2004 - Frontline, Ghent, Belgium w/ Knife Fight, Cut The Shit, The Rites
June 4th 2004 - RURC, London, UK w/ Knife Fight, Walk The Plank
June 5th 2004 - 1 in 12 Club, Bradford, UK w/ Knife Fight, Municipal Waste, Cut The Shit, The Rites
June 6th 2004 - ACU, Utrecht, Holland w/ Knife Fight, Nothing Done
June 12th 2004 - Podium, Hoogeveen, Holland w/ Knife Fight, Municipal Waste, Cut The Shit, The Rites, Sick Terror

June 13th 2004 - Volksschulle, Moers, Germany w/ Knife Fight, Justice, Nothing Done, Harsh Truth

June 18th 2004 - Frontline, Ghent, Belgium w/ MDC
June 24th 2004 - Cultureel Centrum, Dilsen, Belgium w/ Holier Than Thou

July 3rd 2004 - Senkyo Bar, Tilburg, Holland w/ Justice, Restless Youth, Black Friday, Downslide, Abusive Action, Blood Red
July 28th 2004 - Visioen, Brugge, Belgium w/ Justice, You Get Shit
July 29th 2004 - Goudvishal, Arnhem, Holland w/ Justice, Mental

August 7th 2004 - JKZ Scheune, Ibbenbüren, Germany w/ Rise & Fall, Justice, Mental, The First Step, Damage Control
August 27th 2004 - Ieper festival, Belgium
September 17th 2004 - Haus der Jugend, Herne, Germany w/ Rise & Fall, Black Friday, No Turning Back, Zero Mentality

September 26th 2004 - Innocent, Hengelo, Holland w/ Amulet, Restless Youth, Blood Red
October 9th 2004 - JZ Bahnhoff, Würselen, Germany w/ Justice, Zero Mentality

October 23rd 2004 - The Underworld, London, UK w/ Justice, Restless Youth, Rise & Fall, Walk The Plank

October 29th 2004 - Mersey river, Liverpool, UK w/ Voorhees, Walk The Plank, Send More Paramedics
October 31st 2004 - Lintfabriek, Kontich, Belgium w/ Justice, Restless Youth, No Turning Back, Internal Affairs

US tour with 86 Mentality

November 1st 2004 - Wonderland Ballroom, Washington, DC w/ 86 Mentality, The Aftermath
November 2nd 2004 - Chopstix, Richmond, VA w/ 86 Mentality, Sword
November 3rd 2004 - Legion Of Doom, Columbus, OH w/ 86 Mentality
November 4th 2004 - Lemp Arts Center, St-Louis, MO w/ 86 Mentality
November 5th 2004 - Depaul University, Chicago, IL w/ 86 Mentality, RZL DZL
November 6th 2004 - Ania's, Toronto, Canada w/ 86 Mentality, Career Suicide, Fucked Up, Urban Blight
November 7th 2004 - Loudhouse, Montreal, Canada w/ 86 Mentality, C.C.S.S.
November 8th 2004 - Polish American Bar, Boston, MA w/ 86 Mentality, Mental, Mind Eraser, Say Goodbye













November 9th - Crewtonz House of God, Brooklyn, NY w/ 86 Mentality, Sick Of Talk

December 3rd 2004 - Hof Ter Loo, Antwerp, Belgium w/ Madball, Zero Mentality

2005 2005 2005 2005

January 14th 2005 - De Stam, Almelo, Holland w/ Restless Youth, Strike First, Anger Rises
January 21st 2005 - Perron 55, Venlo, Holland w/ Restless Youth, Turn The Screw, My Reply

February 4th 2005 - Baroeg, Rotterdam, Holland w/ Seein' Red, Mihoen, My Reply, Malkovich
February 6th 2005 - JH Jonosh, Asten-Heusden, Holland w/ Malkovich

February 12th 2005 - AK47, Düsseldorf, Germany w/ Restless Youth
March 11th 2005 - Cahier, Hoogstraten, Belgium w/ Rise & Fall, Justice
March 12th 2005 - Ballaer, Berlaar, Belgium w/ Righteous Jams, Restless Youth, You Get Shit, Mumbo Jumbo

March 19th 2005 - Salles des Armées, Anhée, Belgium w/ Justice, Turn The Screw
March 20th 2005 - Mezz, Breda, Holland w/ Violation Of Trust, No Turning Back

March 25th 2005 - Hemelrijk, St-Niklaas, Belgium w/ Reproach, Restless Youth, The Filth, Shredder
April 8th 2005 - So What, Gouda, Holland w/ Malkovich

April 16th 2005 - House show, Antwerp, Belgium w/ Justice, You Get Shit, Mumbo Jumbo

April 16th 2005 - Volksschule, Moers, Germany w/ Outbreak, No Turning Back
April 21st 2005 - 013, Tilburg, Holland w/ Born From Pain, Hatesphere, Zero Mentality

April 23rd 2005 - Tjok, Hove, Belgium w/ White Crime Club

European tour with Violent Minds

May 12th 2005 - 013, Tilburg, Holland w/ Violent Minds
May 14th 2005 - G18, Bremen, Germany w/ Violent Minds, Easpa Measa
May 15th 2005 - Skatepark, Trolhattan, Sweden w/ Violent Minds
May 16th 2005 - Sub Scene, Oslo, Norway w/ Violent Minds

May 17th 2005 - Kafé 44, Stockholm, Sweden w/ Violent Minds, Regulations, Bad News
May 19th 2005 - Kombi, Nunchritz, Germany
May 20th 2005 - Aurora, Warsaw, Poland

May 21st 2005 - Chorus, Ruda Slaska, Poland w/ Violent Minds
May 22nd 2005 - Shelter, Vienna, Austria w/ Violent Minds

May 27th 2005 - Innocent, Hengelo, Holland w/ Violent Minds, Bones Brigade, Turn The Screw
June 5th 2005 - Lintfabriek, Kontich, Belgium w/ Violent Minds, Restless Youth, The Heartaches, Short Fuse

June 26th 2005 - Podium, Hoogeveen, Holland w/ Lärm, Point Of Few, Down To Nothing, Vitamin X, Betercore

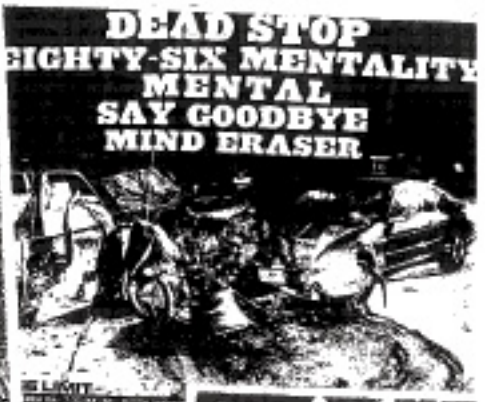


Violent Minds tour. Kafé 44. Stockholm.
Imagine John Brannon playing drums!!!









July 8th 2005 - JKZ Scheune, Ibbenbüren, Germany w/ Direct Control, Restless Youth, Nervous Breakdown
July 9th 2005 - Raiffeisenhalle, Unterbuch, Austria w/ Black Friday, Settle The Score

August 7th 2005 - Lintfabriek, Kontich, Belgium w/ Justice, Rise & Fall, Mental, Lights Out, Abusive Action, State Of Mind

September 10th 2005 - Hobnob, Brasschaat, Belgium w/ Justice, Reproach, Restless Youth, Turn The Screw, True Colors
September 17th 2005 - Visioen, Brugge, Belgium w/ Rise & Fall, AmenRa, Shredder

September 25th 2005 - Extase, Tilburg, Holland w/, Restless Youth

October 2nd 2005 - AJZ, Bielefeld, Germany
October 6th 2005 - Frontline, Ghent, Belgium w/ 86 Mentality, Dead Rats

October 13th 2005 - Winston, Amsterdam, Holland w/ Muncipal Waste
October 14th 2005 - 't Oud Liefken, Zomergem, Belgium w/ Municipal Waste, 86 Mentality
October 15th 2005 - Lintfabriek, Kontich, Belgium w/ Municipal Waste, 86 Mentality, Reproach, Turn The Screw

US tour with Set To Explode

October 29th 2005 - Basement, New Brunswick, NJ w/ Set To Explode, Kill Your Idols, 86 Mentality, Forward To Death
October 30th 2005 - U-Turn, Washington, DC w/ Set To Explode, 86 Mentality, Forced Forward
October 31st 2005 - Nanci Raygun, Richmond, VA w/ Set To Explode, Government Warning, Mad As Hell

November 1st 2005 - Seabreeze Lounge, Daytona Beach, FL

November 2nd 2005 - Bedroom, Atlanta, GA
November 3rd 2005 - Ramp Riders, St-Louis, MO w/ Set To Explode, Cardiac Arrest, Step On It
November 4th 2005 - Haunted Kitchen, Lawrence, KS w/ Set To Explode, Regulations

November 6th 2005 - TC Underground, Minneapolis, MN w/ Set To Explode, Regulations, State, Caustic Christ, Listen Up
November 7th 2005 - Pulaski Park District Building, Chicago, IL w/ Set To Explode, Wound Up

November 8th 2005 - Refuge skateboard shop, Dearborn, MI w/ Set To Explode, Strange Pills

November 9th 2005 - Adrift skatepark, Toronto, Canada w/ Set To Explode, Terminal State, Gunnar Hansen, About To Step
November 10th 2005 - Café Incondentionnel, Montreal, Canada w/ Set To Explode, Radical Attack
November 11th 2005 - Regenaration, Boston, MA w/ Set To Explode, Say Goodbye, Killer Friction

November 18th 2005 - Hemelrijk, St-Niklaas, Belgium w/ Justice, Turn The Screw, True Colors, A Step Apart

December 9th 2005 - Jeugdsoos De Kelder, Borculo, Holland w/ Restless Youth, Abusive Action, New Morality

2006 2006 2006 2006

January 13th 2006 - Ungdomshuset, Copenhagen, Denmark w/ Meatfist

January 14th 2006 - Magazin, Trolhattan, Sweden w/ The Blinds, The Kind That Kills
January 26th 2006 - Winston, Amsterdam, Holland w/ Restless Youth, Justice, Birds Of A Feather

January 28th 2006 - Burgerhaus Kohlscheid, Aachen, Germany w/ Vitamin X
February 3rd 2006 - AK47, Dusseldorf, Germany w/ Justice, Build Me A Bomb

February 4th 2006 - Flösserplatz, Aarau, Switzerland w/ Justice

February 24th 2006 - Scheld'apen, Antwerp, Belgium w/ Career Suicide, Justice, Seein' Red
February 25th 2006 - The Pits, Kortrijk, Belgium w/ Justice

March 3rd 2006 - De Kelk, Brugge, Belgium w/ Turn The Screw, Shredder

March 23th 2006 - Witte Zaal, Ghent, Belgium w/ White Crime Club
March 25th 2006 - Cahier, Hoogstraten, Belgium w/ The Kids

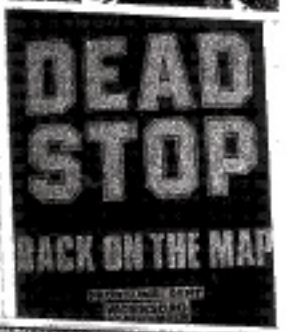
April 9th 2006 - Metropool, Hengelo, Holland w/ Underdog, Justice

April 14th 2006- Arena House, Liverpool, UK
April 14th 2006 - The Fenton, Leeds, UK w/ Fucked Up

April 24th 2006 - Frontline, Ghent, Belgium w/ Annihilation Time, Restless Youth

April 28th 2006 - La Capsa, Barcelona, Spain w/ Restless Youth, Bold
May 7th 2006 - Wehrschloss, Bremen, Germany w/ FVK, Black Friday, No Turning Back
May 20th 2006 - Lintfabriek, Kontich, Belgium w/ Restless Youth, Annihilation Time, Set To Explode, Justice, True Colors



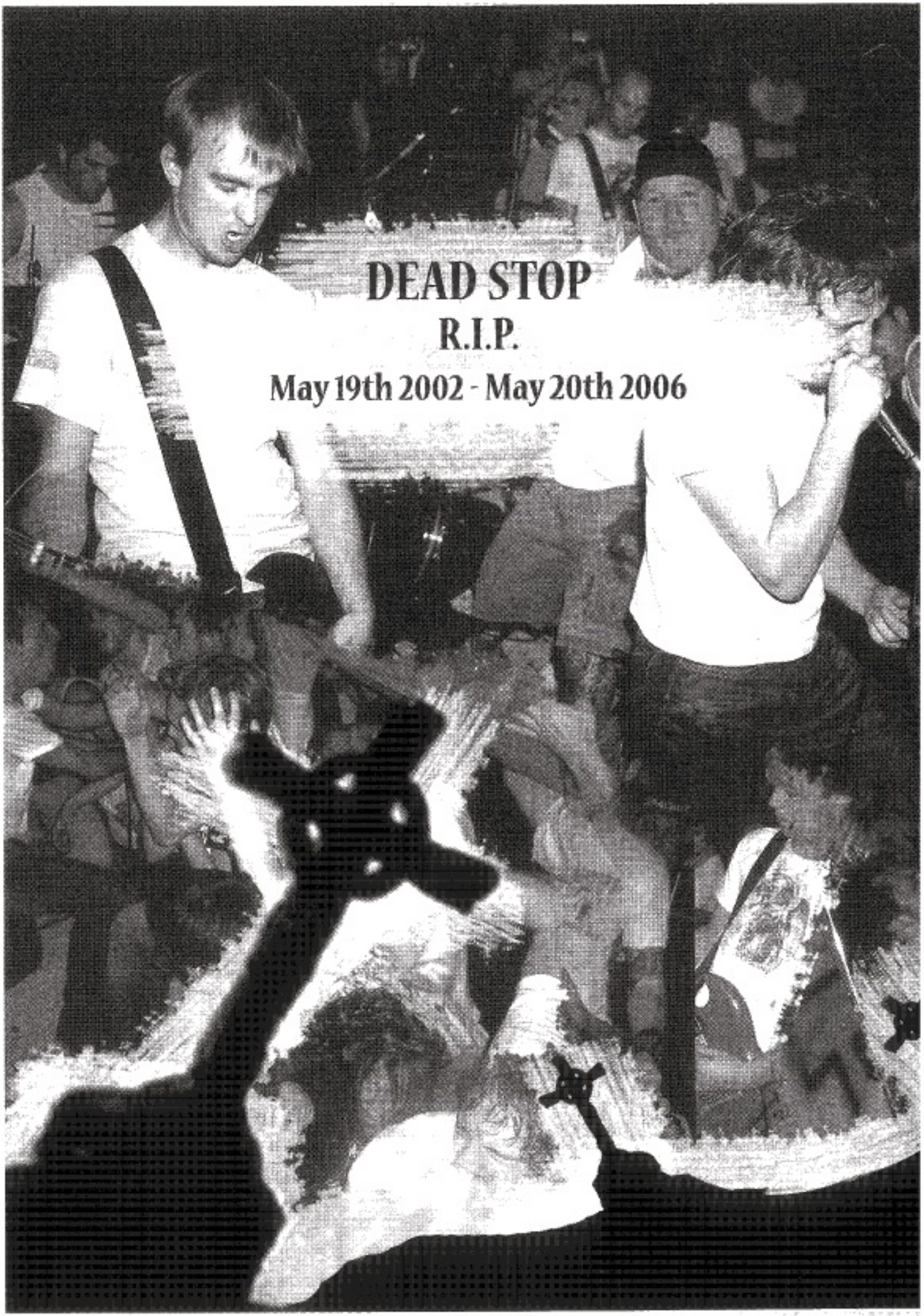






Welcome to Belgium - We fear no foe




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